

ACYOA Central Council Meeting Minutes (**Abridged**)  
Saturday, July 22, 2023 at 9:30 AM CT  
St. James Armenian Church in Evanston

Attendance: Ani Misirliyan (Chair), Jackie Russell (Vice Chair), Maddie Ovassapian (Secretary), Michael Sarafian (Treasurer), Yn. Lucine Sabounjian (Ministries & Outreach), Mardig Klachian (Ministries & Outreach- REMOTE), Andrew Yenicag (Communications), Jennifer Morris (Diocesan, Department of Youth and Adult Ministries Program Administrator)

**Opening Prayer-** Central Council took turns reading the first 12 verses of “I Confess with Faith” by St. Nerses Shnorhali.

- 1. Adoption of Agenda**
- 2. Approval of June Meeting Minutes**
- 3. Former Central Council Recommendation-** Christine Beylerian McNally
- 4. Review Central Council Roles and Responsibilities**
  - a. Maddie will begin creating abridged notes
- 5. Review Liaison System and Updates (Jackie)**
  - a. Council will unify by having a subject line such as “July ACYOA CC Check In (Greenfield, WI)”.
  - b. Jackie will update inactive chapters quarterly.
  - c. All Central Council members gave updates on their chapters.
- 6. Ministries and Outreach**
  - a. Diving Deep Discussions and Sunday Scriptures
    - i. There will be a new name and this will now take place on Wednesdays starting on September 6th
  - b. Fall Retreat
    - i. Jenni said her goal is the end of August to have registration, facts sheet to launch before Labor Day, along with social media. Andrew will create a flier for August liaison with location and date.
  - c. Chapter Chair Connections
    - i. Will continue to have these 3-4 times a year.
  - d. Chapter Connections Planning for 2023-2024
    - i. Ani mentioned that we did two last year during Palm Sunday visits. Council discussed possible parishes for next year. Ani will begin reaching out within the next month.
  - e. Mission Trip
    - i. Jenni checked in on the Council's opinion on the Atlanta location. Her recommendation is to keep Atlanta. Council agreed.
  - f. Recap ASP 2023
    - i. Jenni relayed that ASP went really well. Getting dates out as early as possible is best.
  - g. Presentation at St. James- during coffee hour the following day
  - h. 2023 Fundraising Initiatives
    - i. Yn. Lucine brought up that with Bishop’s 5k being in the Spring, we don’t have a larger fundraising initiative in the Fall.
    - ii. Most agreed they liked the idea of Custom Ink/ACYOA store idea.

- iii. Yn. Lucine and Andrew will chat and create some designs.
- i. Clergy Podcast Idea- New Business
  - i. Yn. Lucine and Mardig will have the first one laid out by September (google form out, promo, name). Mardig will take charge on the technology side of it (Jackie mentioned aiming for using a Spotify platform).

## **7. Treasurer Update**

- a. Review the Financial report and explain how to read it
  - i. Michael explained due to ASP, income is less than expected.
  - ii. ASP scholarship will be used.
  - iii. Central Council will write a donation check to St. Leon to pay the balance of their full page ad in the ad book.
- b. ASP Income/Expense Report
  - i. Central Council agreed to reimburse an individual 50% who could not go, even though it was after the deadline for reimbursement.
  - ii. Final loss on ASP is \$2,500.

## **8. Communications**

- a. Meet the Council Posts- almost done
- b. Website Bios- Andrew updated these on the website
- c. Social Media Takeovers- will continue doing this
- d. Western Diocese Zoom
  - i. Our Central Council is interested in participating in a call in August/September, which Andrew will relay to them.

## **9. General Assembly and Sports Weekend**

- a. General Assembly Minutes & Resolutions & Courtesies Report (Jenni/Ani)
  - i. Central Council will review minutes and provide feedback within a week.
  - ii. Courtesies Report is done as presented.
- b. New Jersey 2023 GASW Narrative & Financial Draft Report Review
  - i. Ani had the Central Council review the report.

## **10. Committee Updates**

- a. 2024 GASW Committee Update (Ani and Jackie)
  - i. Ani and Jackie explained that St. Gregory the Illuminator has a goal of fundraising every month up until May.
- b. 2024 Bishop's 5K - (Mardig and Yn. Lucine)- will be done in the Spring, goal it to have Hayr Mesrop at all
- c. Bylaws Guidelines Committee (Maddie and Andrew)- TBD.

## **11. Goal Setting for 2023-2024**

- a. Jenni will take the four main ideas (faith, increasing membership, resources, and engagement/fellowship) and turn them into goals for Central Council to review and approve for the new goals.

## **12. Upcoming Meetings/Event**

## **13. Closing Prayer**