



# Antiochian Orthodox Christian Women of Ss. Peter & Paul

9980 Highway 9, PO Box 458  
Ben Lomond, CA 95005

V. Reverend Father Andrew Beck, Pastor

## Minutes for Meeting on: Sunday, January 13, 2013

**Time:** During coffee hour

**Location:** Church Office Library

**Members Present:** 16, including Fr. Andrew

**Length of Meeting:** 50 minutes

→ **Next meeting: Sunday February 10, 2013**

- **Opening Prayer**

- **Treasurer's Report: (Kh. Ellen)**

- a) total funds are the same as last month except \$500 was donated (through Fr. Andrew) to a local family in dire need.

- **Agenda Items**

1. **Approval of Minutes:**

- a) it was agreed that we will not take time in our meetings to approve the previous month's minutes, but rather when the minutes are emailed to the group members, they can respond (to the group secretary) with changes or amendments. Those changes will be reported at the next meeting.

2. **Charity Report: (Barbara S)**

- a) no volunteer work or monetary donations have been done for a long while in support of the Sienna House
- b) Barbara still has not been able to contact anyone at the Sienna House, but will persevere and report next month

3. **Sign-up Genius: (Linda)**

- a) briefly discussed this online tool as a way of keeping track of volunteers for our projects
- b) so far, only about 1/3 of our women have actually signed up, (joining Sign-up Genius with name and password is not the same as volunteering, it is just signing up to view our projects that need volunteers)
- c) all were encouraged to give it a try

3. **Annual Cervantes Memorial Burrito Luncheon: (Rebeca and Romina)**

- a) for the past 3 years they have been helping the Community Dinner project with their Burrito Luncheon
- b) when asked, they expressed willingness to prepare a fund-raising luncheon (with some help) if the Women's Group wanted them to
- c) discussion of possible dates, nothing definite was agreed upon

4. **Holy Assumption Monastery, Calistoga: (Leanne)**

- a) suggestion of a possible visit (either one-day or overnight) as a Women's Group activity before Lent starts
- b) Mother Melania, who was last year's Women's Retreat speaker, agreed to a visit from our group on March 9, 2013
- c) Kh. Ellen, Monica and Leanne will organize



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## 5. → **New Decision-making method: (Leanne)**

- a) discussed the need for a simpler and a fairer way for all to agree on a suggested idea
- b) once a new idea is brought up, allow time for each woman present to briefly give opinion
- c) unless the suggestion is urgent, we will postpone voting on it until next meeting
- d) everyone will receive the minutes (email or box) and those women not present at the meeting will have an opportunity to vote also

## 6. → **Purpose and goals of our Women's Group: (Leanne)**

- a) it was suggested that we need to redefine our focus, based on the Goals and Mission statement from the official AOCWNA Membership Handbook (see pg 10)
- b) our primary area of focus should be on spiritual activities, charitable projects and support for the Archdiocese yearly project (pg 11 of Handbook)
- c) currently, the Women's Group finds itself extremely busy and distracted by constantly organizing and directing parish-wide social activities such as potlucks, feast day celebrations, coffee hour, kitchen laundry, etc.
- d) it was suggested that these parish-wide activities would be better suited under a Social Committee, possibly under the Parish Council
- e) it was pointed out that our meetings could be much shorter without all this organizing and possibly more women would be willing to attend
- f) all were encouraged to look up the official Membership Handbook online and look at suggestions for a local chapter (see pgs 17, 31, 33)
- g) AOCWNA web page can be seen at: [www.antiochian.org/women](http://www.antiochian.org/women)
- h) AOCWNA Membership Handbook can be seen at: [www.antiochian.org/aocwna\\_membership\\_handbook](http://www.antiochian.org/aocwna_membership_handbook)

This topic generated a spirited and lively discussion! Many excellent opinions were given, both for and against. We will continue this discussion next month. *Please, everyone needs to thoughtfully and prayerfully think on this new suggestion and be prepared to either discuss further or vote next month.*

### Officers:

- President: Leanne Albers •Vice-president: Monica Zweers•
- Treasurer: Kh. Ellen Steiger •Secretary: Linda Young