

Holy Taxiarchai and St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church-Niles, Illinois
Parish Council Minutes for November 16, 2016

Commencement of Meeting: The Parish Council meeting began at 7:40 p.m. with Father Dean leading us in prayer and who present for the duration of the meeting. President Giannopoulos presided over the meeting, for its duration, and Argy Koutsikos, as recording secretary, recorded the matters addressed.

Parish Council Members in Attendance: Present: P Giannopoulos, T Kanelos, A Koutsikos, A Rizos, R Kozlowski, W Bozikis, C Ioannou, N Andrews, D Houpis, A Demeros, D Loomos, N Gianaris, K Apithis, T Sikoral, E Kiriazopoulos, T Bournias, M Pontikes. Absent: L Konstantellos, T Karabatsos, C Agalliu, J Aliferis.

President's Remarks: Members in attendance were greeted by President Giannopoulos. Presented Pam Papakanelos and Sophia Koulogeorge who extended an invitation to the Parish Council members wives to attend Philoptochos' annual Christmas party on 12-8-16.

Minutes: Minutes from the 10-19-16 meeting were reviewed. **Motion:** To accept minutes made by 1st T Kanelos/2nd N Andrews **Vote:** 9-0-2
Minutes from the 9-21-16 meeting were reviewed-typographical errors corrected.
Motion: To accept minutes as corrected made by 1st A Rizos /2nd D Houpis **Vote:** 9-0-4

Correspondence:

- 1) Ad book sponsorship request from Assumption in Homer Glen.
- 2) Acknowledgement of recent donation to IOCC.
- 3) News letter from Pan Hellenic Society.
- 4) Donation request from American Cancer Society.
- 5) IOCC request for Thanksgiving donations(specific Sunday tray for that purpose).
- 6) Feed the Starving Children donation request.
- 7) Donation request from Mercy Home for Boys and Girls-**Motion:** To make \$150.00 donation made by 1st A Rizos/2nd T Kanelos **Vote:** unanimous

Treasurer's Report: Financial reports from 9-30-16 and 10-31-16 reviewed with certain line items discussed. **Motion:** To accept 9-30-16 and 10-31-16 reports made by 1st T Sikoral /2nd E Kiriazopoulos **Vote:** 13-0-1

D Loomos explained the differences we will see on the financial reports in November where certain funds will be deposited into Phase III account -eliminate breakout of other named accounts.

Committee Reports:

School Board-As previously requested the School Board prepared a spread sheet showing the breakout of the school programs growth over the past 10 years. A school budget report for the 2016-2017 school year was provided and reviewed. Discussion had as to the "Net Income/(Deficit)" to be realized and how to effectively show the revenue vs. expenses attributable to the school programs.

Budget Report -Suggestion was made to take the school line item out of the annual budget report and present a separate school budget to the General Assembly. Further

discussion had as to what format will accurately reflect the parishes' finances so that the revenue shown ties up with expenses and allow for a balanced budget.

D Houpis also suggested that council members be provided with a breakdown for expenses attributable to the youth programs for the last 2 years, for review. Electricity line item discussed as to how costs can be decreased-discussion of light/motion sensors to be used for evening but parking lot lights should always remain on- to investigate the cost efficiency of the use of the 6 heads flood light use or other option.

Wages -clergy (3) , chanter, office staff proposed increase 2% across the board but with further discussion as to Sandy's wages.

Custodian increase for Carolina and Juan \$.65 each

Discussion on Sandy's previous increase in hours (8); noted that the increase was with intent of switching existing archaic software to the Archdiocese software and having Sandy implement same- it was acknowledged that that goal was yet realized by no fault of the office. In January, 2016 Sandy's hours were increased by 8 each week with an add'l salary of \$8,900.00. Those add'l hours were spent doing multiple tasks and all agreed that Sandy should continue with her current work week schedule.

Discussion next was as to salary increase or not: Option #1 keep 8hour increase with no 2% raise (10 voted yes); Option #2 keep 8 hour increase and give a 2% salary increase (5 voted yes) **Majority voted option #1**

As an aside it was discussed that a new snow blower needs to be purchased.

Motion: To approve budget to show mandated changes (to the school programs and wages) and provided that the net income for the fiscal year is no less than zero made by T Kanelos/2nd R Kozlowski. **Vote:** 15-0-1

General Assembly to accept the budget and audit report to be held on 12/4/16 or if no quorum then on 12/11/16. Letter to that effect to go out to parishioners by 11/23/16.

Phase III- A *projected* expansion project budget report was prepared and distributed by President Giannopoulos-variables included the mortgage that will be assumed, if any, and projected increase in operating costs. Advised that there has been indirect communication with subcontractor; to find a project manager that will eliminate the need of general contractor in order to eliminate some costs.

2016 Men's Event- Will be held 11-23-16 at the Fountain Blue.

2017 Dinner Dance- Chairladies Rubine Giannopoulos and Ruby Antonopoulos- venue Chicago Hilton/Northbrook Hotel brunch on 2-12-17. 1:00 p.m. start. Discussion as to actual cost and amount to be charged. **Motion:** To charge \$60.00 for adults and \$20.00 for 12 and under made by 1st A Demeros/2nd K Apithis. **Vote:** 15-1-0

2016 Stewardship - As of 11-15-16 \$337,000.00 pledged by 658 families/stewards compared to 11-11-15 659 stewardship pledges totaling \$331,000.00.

2017 Stewardship Campaign- Lead by Father George have already had 2 meetings; 2017 STEWARDSHIP form almost completed. Setting goals and following up by implementing

target dates; processed previous stewardship forms to extract data and use data on a spreadsheet.

Outreach Committee- No report

Building and Grounds- Insurance claim has been submitted for garage annex building and contents ; blistering of paint in all 4 corners of church to be addressed; as to the water damage in the class rooms and community center R Kozlowski had a quote given after the areas were inspected (design issue as to roof pitch) - suggestion is cut in walls with scuppers placement -approximate cost \$80,000.00 (3 years ago quote was @ \$20k); railings leading up to the choir loft are loose; front doors need to be varnished as part of maintenance to same.

For the Good of the Parish-

General Assembly on 12/4/16 or in no quorum then on 12/11/16;

Raising funds towards St. Nicholas Shrine to extend through the end of the year;

Men's event is on 11-23-16 -try to show your support;

Outreach Committee hosting Thanksgiving lunch on 11/24/16;

Parish Council hosting after service coffee hour on 11/27/16;

Need for a full time Greek dance instructor -candidate is John Sotirakos--

Motion : To hire candidate as full time dance instructor made by 1st K Apithis/2nd E Kiriazopoulos **Vote: 15-0-0**

Christmas Retreat on Saturday 12/3/16;

Noted that at last General Assembly there was low attendance by P.C. members and impressed on all the importance of attending as representatives of the parish.

Motion to adjourn made by 1st A Rizos/ 2nd E Kiriazopoulos -adjourned 11:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted ,

Argy Koutsikos, Recording Secretary

Open Items for resolution:

1) School programs to be assessed by professional team of educators.2) Basketball hoop for the youth. 3) Parish Council going as a group to St. Iakovos Retreat Center. 4) Circulate copy of Parish Bylaws to all Parish Council members