

Holy Taxiarchai and St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church-Niles, Illinois
Parish Council Minutes for May 18, 2016

Commencement of Meeting: The Parish Council meeting began at 7:48 p.m. with Father Dean leading us in prayer who was 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, M Pontikes, T Kanelos, A Koutsikos, A Rizos, R Kozlowski, W Bozikis, K Ioannou, N Andrews, D Houpis, K Apithis, C Agalliu, T Sikoral, E Kiriazopoulos, D Loomos, L Konstantellos. Absent: T Karabatsos, J Aliferis, T Bournias, N Gianaris, A Demeros.

President's Remarks: Members in attendance were greeted by President Giannopoulos.

Minutes: Minutes from 3-16-16 meeting reviewed.

Motion: To accept minutes made by 1st A Rizos/2nd T Sikoral **Vote: 14-0-0**

Minutes from 4-20-16 meeting reviewed and discussed/ corrections made.

Motion: To accept minutes as corrected made by 1st T Sikoral/2nd E Kiriazopoulos

Vote: 11-0-3

Correspondence:

1) Announcement from Assumption Church in Homer Glen of its upcoming 100th year Anniversary celebration/ seeking ad book sponsorship.

Motion: Make \$100.00 donation made 1st W Bozikis/2nd C Agalliu **Vote: 12-1-1**

2) Sponsorship request for Jr. Olympics

Motion: Make \$350.00 donation made 1st D Loomos/2nd T Kanelos **Vote: 15-0-0**

3) Thank you acknowledgement for recent \$1000.00 to Madagascar

Treasurer's Report: Financial Report of 2-29-16 was reviewed and discussed highlighting any variances.

Motion: To accept Financial Statement as presented made by 1st T Sikoral/ 2nd E Kiriazopoulos **Vote: 14-0-1**

Financial Report of 3-31-16 was reviewed and discussed.

Motion: To accept Financial Statement as presented made by 1st T Sikoral/2nd L Konstantellos **Vote: 14-0-1**

Discussion had as to making payments through electronic means for the parishioner's convenience keeping in mind the efficiency and mechanics of doing same. T Sikoral and L Konstantellos volunteered to look into how this can be achieved effectively and properly implemented with the existing office payment recording practice in place.

Committee Reports:

A) Outreach Committee: Mr. Pierce presented summary: Bessie's Table on 5-23-16 will be manned by Parish Council members/ families. Next Meals on Wheels date for cooking and delivering is 5-21-16 - D Houpis has volunteered to cook but in need of volunteers for delivering meals.

B) Food Fest- Ongoing meeting, raffle tickets will be available at large in the near future,

car selected for grand prize is an Audi A3. Total prizes amount to \$29,500.00.

C) Stewardship update: As of 5-18-16 508 families have pledged a total of \$280,300.00 (average \$551.77) in comparison to 5-20-15 when 496 families had pledged a total of \$264,920.00. Review of stewardship data showed a peak in stewardship commitments the year of the Consecration where it reached up to 680 families.

D) Phase III; on 5-26-16 there will be a meeting with the 3rd G.C. who recently submitted proposal bid. After that meeting the committee will choose a G.C. but will not sign off with it on a contractual agreement- instead that chosen G.C. will then have to work through the final design areas for cost saving modifications-then the G.C. will need to make a final proposal bid. Current fundraising update is that it is now over 2 million in pledges and the next step is to start making personal contact/phone calls for pledges. D Houpis requested that the upcoming meetings be announced and voiced his objection if the G.C(s). is/are paid for the proposal bids as there is not sufficient funds to move forward with the expansion-he suggested that the project commence piecemeal as funds dictate.

Motion: D Houpis made motion to have Phase III committee meet with the architect to redesign the plans so that the project can proceed in stages.

Discussion had as to what would be the logistic obstacles in proceeding in that matter- T Kanelos advised that no monies are paid for the G.C. proposal bids.

No second to the motion -motion dies with no vote required.

E) Golf Outing: Date set for 9-22-16 at the same course as last year. To date have some sponsors and some donations.

F) Building and Grounds: Solea railing was well constructed and installed; A Andrews fixed light in proximity to chanter area; LED light illuminates the front lawn sign fixture; water is dripping in Father's Dean office which needs to be addressed;

The @ 50-60 weekend parking lot spots, the need for same and its monthly rental cost of \$1,000.00 discussed; balance the need of the parking spots on any given Sunday and/or during food fest, the ramifications of losing those parking spaces and what are the alternatives. It was noted that at the time Parish Council voted to rent the parking lot A. Andrews was asked and given the authority to negotiate the terms and rental costs with the property owner and in doing so realized a significant savings on the monthly rental cost.

Motion: To leave parking arrangement as is until the end of the calendar year as budgeted made by 1st T Sikoral/2nd T Kanelos. **Vote:** 12-1-2

G) Lamb Cook-off: Great idea and fun event with 140 people attending and 5 teams participating in the competition-winner Anastasiadis brothers. Thanks to chair people T Kanelos, T Karabatsos and E Kiriazopoulos. Suggestion for next year to move the start time up, have the lamb from each contestant served separately and make it a people choice award vote. Raised @ \$3,200.00.

H) Memorial Day picnic: to be held on 5-30-16 at Flick Park in Glenview. Parish Council provides hamburgers and hot dogs and A. Andrews has agreed to be grill master.

For the Good of the Parish:

Continued discussion to raise @ \$10,000.00 for the St, Nicholas National Shrine in New York which has a projected cost of 39 million dollars. As a whole Parish Council can plan some events with monies raised specific to that cause- suggested a "Souvlaki Night" possibly in September when we ordinarily sponsor a welcome back event for the start up of various church programs suspended during the summer months.

The National Clergy Laity conference will take place in Nashville on July 3-7. The parish priest, parish president and two delegates are given voting right at the conference which involves multiple topics, I.e. Archdiocese's assessments.

Motion: To approve nominated delegates T Kanelos and T Sikoral made by 1st R Kozlowski/2nd E Kiriazopoulos **Vote:** 12-0-3

Priest's Remarks:

All attending members were required to fill out the Conflict Disclosure Policy form.

5-29-16 coffee hour after service offered by Parish Council- please try to help out.

On 6-2-16 annual Fall of Constantinople - this will be observed this year with speaker at St. Demetrios church in Elmhurst.

On 6-5-16 we will have our annual Youth Day celebration.

On 6-18-16 the Pan Hellenic Scholarship Foundation will honor the late Chris Tomaras with a fund raiser at the Ritz Carlton-Water Tower at \$250.00 a ticket.

Motion: Parish Council buy a table for \$2,500.00 made by 1st T Kanelos/2nd T Sikoral
Vote: 13-0-2

Motion: To adjourn made 1st T Kanelos/ 2nd K Ioannou - **Vote:** unanimous
Meeting ended at 10:10 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