

**HOLY TAXIARHAI and ST. HARALAMBOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 20, 2019**

Commencement of Meeting: Began at 7:43 pm with Oath of Affirmation for remaining Parish Council, led by Father Dean. Father George is also present.

Parish Council Officers were elected following Affirmation of Office after Liturgy on January 20. The following names needed to be confirmed:

Recording Secretary - Krystal Ioannou accepted nomination

Assistant Recording Secretary - Argy Koutsikos accepted nomination

Assistant Treasurer - L Konstantellos declined nomination, G Houpis accepted nomination on an as needed basis

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

Absent: N Gianaris

Minutes:

Motion: To accept the January 2019 Parish Council Meeting Minutes as corrected, made by M Pontikes / 2nd J Pierce **Vote:** 16-0-3 **Pass**

Correspondence:

Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC): Thank you for donations in 2018

Hellenic College Holy Cross: Thank you for donations in 2018

Greater Chicago Broadcast Ministries donation request

Motion: B Bozikis / 2nd A Rizos for \$100 donation to Greater Chicago Broadcast Ministries **Vote:** 14-1-3 **Pass**

Financial Report: Review of December 2018 year-end financials sent via Parish Council email, and provided handout. St Iakovos Retreat Center was listed twice but it was corrected, the numbers are the same. Discussion had with financials for December 2018.

Motion: to table 12/2018 Financials E Kiriazopoulos / 2nd G Giolas **Vote** 17-1-2 **Pass**

Committee Reports:

Anniversary Dinner Dance totals presented by E Kiriazopoulos

Revenues included: Ad Book \$13,700, Food Tickets \$12,488, Donations \$1000, Raffle tickets \$4,375. Expenses included: Dinner costs \$8660, Band \$1850, Flowers \$700. Cleared a \$20,350 profit. Thank you, Chairperson Eleni Kiriazopoulos!

Phase III: Led by P Giannopoulos. Value engineering is ongoing, we are still above goal. We are continuing to do some work and negotiations. Pappas was \$560,000 lower than the other bidders. Excavation should start once the weather breaks.

Discussed restaurant equipment acquired (valued at \$150,000), costing \$15,000. New Phase III communications to be sent out. Statements for Phase III donors to be sent out, still pending. Looking for volunteers to make phone calls to gather more donors for Phase III.

1 Year Plan Outline presented by G Giolas. Discussion had as to what are the five most pressing topics/issues each of groups of 4 parish council members (5 groups total). Faith Cultivation, Outreach, Grieving/Support Groups for members of Parish, for examples. What are passions of individuals in parish council, what can we do to make a lasting, positive impact for the parish. Focused PC Meeting 3/5/19 at 7pm.

Outreach: Presented by J Pierce. Meals on Wheels on Saturday 2/23/19. Bessie's Table on Monday 2/24/19. Hard to find people for Bessie's Table on Monday.

Building & Grounds: Need structural engineer, because the heat is blowing through a heating coil through the system, but maybe put on the roof. A penthouse would hold both the units. Security System - 14 cameras all together. 4 were not working, but 2 are working again and 2 more need repairs on. The cameras are older cameras but they are functional. May consider replacing them, approval for upgrades for \$2000. Once the new building comes in we will get a new system. The cameras meet our needs for now. Ted, Mike and Perry looked into them a few nights ago (found that some wiring was loose). During Vespers the fire alarm went off. It could have been dusty, or condensation could have formed. Happened twice that day.

Stewardship: Led by G Giolas. 2019: 253 families have pledged \$184,815
Compared to 2018: 236 families pledged \$169,776

Two goals: (1) try to get as many people as possible to accept the stewardship challenge;
(2) Try to engage as many stewards as possible. Meeting this Monday 2/25/19. Look at the Stewardship Challenge as individuals, try to accomplish even a few of the tasks

Food Festival: Led by R Kozlowski. Currently past Fest leaders are looking at tent needs. Also consider how the new construction might affect the Fest. Looking for someone to Co-chair the festival? Send R Kozlowski an email if interested. They will need a lot of help again. Discussion had at length with regards to the festival Raffle: Are people drawn to the Audi/Harley vs having cash prizes. Raffle is the 2nd biggest income item of the food festival. More data is needed - how many tickets are other churches selling, are there any bulk buyers of tickets. Argy will look at St George, T Bournias at Libertyville and St Helen & Constantine, and T Kanelos will look at Holy Cross.

Fundraisers: No Lamb Roast competition; but we are doing a Bright Friday Dinner. E Kiriazopoulos is chairman for Bright Friday Dinner (5/3/19). Considering 6/21/19 Tavern Night. Fall Fest - not sure how far along we will be along with construction. Movie at the Pickwick reminder 2/21/19, proceeds support Charitable Work of Philoptochos.

For the Good of the Parish: Care is needed for deductible donation receipts to be stamped 'no goods and services are provided'. There is a stamp, office should use for all receipts over \$250.

On Phase III, Stewardship, and General Donations make sure receipts are stamped.
Suggestion to call those parishioners and have them bring back receipts to get stamped, due to possible denial of deductions by IRS
Stewardship forms: Data is sparse on forms, such as birthday/names day

Priests Remarks: Forgiveness Vespers will be 3/10/19. Metropolitan Nathanael will be here, made it mandatory for all area priests to be present. Would like to have people here, Ushers. Fr Dean no longer on Clergy health insurance. Medicare cost of \$906 per month; to look into seeing if it can be deducted pre-tax from payroll.

Inreach Committee:

Deacon Perry Hamalis (Wednesday, 3/13/19): Presentation on the Mystery and Meaning of Forgiveness. Presanctified Liturgy, light lenten meal then presentation.

Fr Jonathan Bannon (Monday, 3/18/19-Day after Sunday of Orthodoxy) will talk about iconography. Compline Service, followed by a light meal.

There will also be a Question & Answer presentation (Wednesday, 3/27/19), similar to last year, again following Presanctified Liturgy followed by light lenten meal, Q & A with Fr Dean Botsis, Fr George Lamberis and Deacon John Suhayda.

Fr Dean reported that our Philoptochos has made a generous donation of \$5000 for Holy Cross/Hellenic College.

Open items: 1) Festival Raffle Data from other parishes: Updates from T Bournias, T Kanelos, A Koutsikos

Motion to Adjourn: A Rizos / 2nd E Kiriazopoulos **Vote Unanimously Pass**
Meeting adjourned at 10:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Krystal Ioannou, Recording Secretary