

HOLY TAXIARHAI and ST. HARALAMBOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
JUNE 19, 2019

Commencement of Meeting: Began with prayers at 7:42pm led by Fr Dean

Parish Council Members in Attendance: C Agalliu, N Andrews, W Bozikis N Gianaris, G Giolas, G Houpis, K Ioannou, T Kanelos, E Kiriazopoulos, L Konstantellos, A Koutsikos, D Loomos, R Kozlowski, J Pierce, A Rizos, T Sikoral.

Absent: T Bournias, T Karabatsos, A Demeros, P Giannopoulos, M Pontikes,

Minutes of May 16, 2019: **Motion:** G Giolas / 2nd J Pierce to accept meeting minutes from May, 2019 as corrected.

Vote: 12-0-3 Pass

Correspondence: Thank you from Pan Hellenic Scholarship Foundation for \$250.

Treasurer's Report: Review of April and May 2019 Financials.

Motion: To accept April 2019 financials: T Sikoral / 2nd W Bozikis. **Vote: Pass Unanimous**

Motion: To accept May 2019 financials: T Sikoral/2nd E Kiriazopoulos. **Vote: Pass Unanimous**

Motion: Konstantellos / 2nd G Giolas motion that all available Phase III funds be moved to 30 - 90 day Treasury Bills (bonds).

Discussion: Limit to \$600,000. Or limit to \$500,000 (S.I.P.C. coverage).

Vote: 6-5-5. Pass; President was required to break the tie.

Youth Protection Policy-The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese is implementing a mandatory Youth Protection Policy. Each parish is required to designate an administrator.

Motion: In accordance with the new Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago, Policies for the Safety of Youth & Children, the Parish Council votes to delegate the responsibility of Parish Administrator for this policy to Argy Koutsikos. T Kanelos / 2nd J Pierce. Discussion: The policy presented seems to contradict itself. Can we appoint Parish Administrator or is it by default, the president of the Parish Council? We will reach out to Fr Kosmas Kallis for clarification. Generally speaking, the policy mandates all persons involved directly with youth, be trained and thoroughly screened via background checks etc. **Vote: Pass Unanimous.**

Food Festival

Various changes with regards to locations of tents due to ongoing construction. Neighbors are graciously allowing us to use parking. There is a checklist for donations. Food item donations (octopus, etc). Talk to Perry or Richard beforehand. We are noted for quality and also to avoid duplication. Will continue with periodic updates. Raffle sales were about \$3000 lower than usual but sold more than 50 books and the gap is closing in on prior year.

Phase III Construction:

Footings will be poured tomorrow. All bids have come in under what we have budgeted. We still have a few more bids coming in for a couple items. No invoices yet to date, no expenses to report. Another meeting next week with the contractor and the committee. Details worked out with Pappas for temporary driveway through Jinny lot. The container is to be emptied during the

festival and it will be moved north and east. They will repave that general area where needed. For next week Thursday/Friday, gas line that serves our kitchen is going to be moved to the front where a new meter is being installed. The freezer for the kitchen - need new footings. May salvage the structure. As it comes closer to that time we will have more information.

Phase III Communications:

Trying to remove Phase III Fundraising out of the communication letter. Focus more on the status of construction. Discussion had as to how to word "raised to date" vs "expenses" or "with your help....." within future communications.

Phase III Fundraising:

Phone calls to follow up on the construction efforts. Calling from the church for Caller ID: people may be more likely to answer/listen to messages. Has to be timed in conjunction with the time the Phase III Communications letter.

Motion: T Sikoral / 2nd L Konstantellos to allocate up to \$3000 out of Phase III Budget for marketing materials for upcoming Food Festival. **Vote: 13-1-1 Pass**

Stewardship:

\$316,927 pledged in 2019 by 507 families, which is \$625 avg. LY: \$320,000 pledged with 514 families. Median pledge was between \$300 to \$400 range in the previous years (2015-2017). In 2018, the median pledge went from \$400 to \$500. Good news: people that pledged \$1000 to \$1500 up to 59 people in 2018. Meeting attendance for stewardship is not necessarily indicative of how many people would be willing to volunteer.

Outreach:

Kyriakos Anastasiadis volunteered to oversee Meals on Wheels for the next 3 months (June, July, August). Bessie's Table is this Monday June 24th.

Building and Grounds:

Question: Need to break the wall in the janitor's closet to fix leak.

Problem with AC unit in the Narthex; if it is too cold outside it won't kick on but someone came in to fix the thermostat.

The wall in the SE corner of the church needs repair, and the speaker to be rehung.

Golf Outing: Will take place on 9/19/19 at Old Orchard Country Club in Mt Prospect. Looking for sponsorships. Golf Bags, Pull carts as good prizes. Looking forward to high participation.

For the Good of the Parish

Copier is coming up for renewal. August 4th lease expires, we have to cancel the current contract by July 4th otherwise face high fees. We have quotes from 4 companies. Information was incomplete but put in spreadsheet. With the present contract, each month they were raising the fees. We are looking at options and will have a decision made in the next week. Information to be sent out to present company. Making sure that the printer/copier has all necessary features.

No quotes yet for HVAC. To be discussed at the next meeting.

Current Insurance coverage was discussed. The Council members felt it was sufficient, but there will be a more complete report at the next meeting.

Change the name of the account of Capital Projects to Contingency Funds on the financial statements. Discussion had that we can utilize funds from this account for HVAC repair.

Clergy Laity Assembly: Members of Metropolis Council will be elected at the Clergy Laity Assembly. Metropolitan Nathanael is changing the nomination process in order to have inclusivity, to broaden the possibility of more people being nominated, not just those that are in attendance at the Assembly. Interested persons that want to be nominated should fill form including a 250 word biography, a personal short message of why they want to be on the council. Question: What are the responsibilities involved with being a member of Metropolis Council? Answer: Expect monthly meetings plus expect subcommittee involvement. Nominations due by August 16th. We are only allowed to nominate one parishioner.

N Gianaris made a **motion** to nominate T Kanelos to the Metropolitan Council. **T Kanelos accepts.** No other nominations. **Vote: Pass Unanimous.**

B Bozikis made a **motion** to nominate T Kanelos for the Archdiocesan Council. **T Kanelos accepts. Vote: Pass Unanimous.**

Priests Remarks:

Reduce dependence on the secretaries in the office. Especially with Food Festival coming up, things are getting busy in the office. Pentecost service past Sunday was a very satisfying service. Feast of All Saints coming up this Sunday.

Our new Archbishop is going to be enthroned this Saturday. It is a very difficult position, he needs prayers. (His Eminence Elpidophoros). Mr. Blase, former mayor of Niles, passed away. Metropolitan Nikitas was elected Archbishop of Thyateira and Great Britain (Britain, Scotland and Ireland). He is going to be enthroned July 27th. Fr Dean would like to go to enthronement. Suggestion to reschedule or cancel July Parish Council meeting. July 24 - Aug 9 Fr Dean will be gone. Fr George will be here.

Motion to adjourn: A Rizos 10:21pm. **Vote: Pass Unanimous**

Respectfully Submitted,

Krystal Ioannou, Recording Secretary