

**HOLY TAXIARHAI and ST. HARALAMBOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH  
PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES FOR AUGUST 21, 2019**

**Commencement of Meeting:** Began at 7:37pm with Father Dean leading prayer.

**Parish Council Members in Attendance:** C Agalliu, W Bozikis, T Bournias, A Demeros, P Giannopoulos, G Giolas, G Houpis, K Ioannou, T Kanelos, T Karabatsos, E Kiriazopoulos, D Loomos, J Pierce, A Rizos

**Absent:** N Andrews, N Gianaris, L Konstantellos, A Koutsikos, R Kozlowski, M Pontikes, T Sikoral

**Minutes of June 19, 2019:**

**Motion:** To table the June 2019 minutes for next meeting: T Kanelos, **Vote: 9-0-2 Pass**

**Financials:**

Review of June 2019 financials

**Motion:** To accept the June 2019 financials, J Pierce / 2nd E Kiriazopoulos

**Vote: 13-0-0 Pass**

Review of July 2019 financials.

Discussion:

**Q:** Why doesn't money get placed into the Phase III account to begin with? (why is there a delay) **A:** Due to the Red Book process, it will be transferred eventually. Also, we should try to transfer to the correct account as soon as possible, or the next day. Ideally should take place a few days before the end of the month or at the beginning of the month.

Other discussion: Gold Coast account has accrued \$27,000 in interest. MB account has the most interest (about 2.15%). **Open Item:** With regards to T-bills, the council to discuss at the next meeting. **Q:** How liquid are the funds? (of a T-bill)

**Open Item:** Capital projects will be split to contingency and capital accounts.

**Motion:** To accept the July 2019 Financials: G Houpis / 2nd E Kiriazopoulos

**Vote: 13-0-0 Pass**

**Food Fest:** Preliminary report-The Fest will probably net about \$125,000.

**Phase III Update:** The water detention is complete. They are working on the foundation for the middle building which is against the main community center building. They have to dig out one section at a time to reinforce current building (in accordance to plans already made, which takes time).

**Phase III Communications:** Construction logs/photos are being sent to and posted on the church website.

A new Communications letter will be sent out in the next few weeks.

**Phase III Fundraising:** Mailings sent out to remind parishioners to fulfill pledges.

**Youth Protection Policy:** All persons in direct contact with the youth have to fulfill training and background checks and we must be fully compliant by the end of the year (December). All youth workers, teachers, etc. need to be updated on the requirements as soon as possible.

**Stewardship Update:** There will be a stewardship Appreciation Luncheon either in October or November. The committee is working on a new campaign for 2020.

Pledges through August 21, 2019: 544 families pledged \$334,407, average of \$615 per family. Last year, same time, 538 families had pledged \$332,617, average \$618 per family. Seem to be on pace as last year. There will be another mailer going out with more numerical data.

**School Board:** Meeting will occur next week.

**Outreach Committee:** How would the outreach committee or any parishioner handle any specific cases of random acts of kindness (for example: someone is very ill or near death, homelessness or sleeping in a car). Discussion had as to who should be addressing or taking action with these specific outreach circumstances: including the Stewardship and Outreach Committee. Also, if the Outreach Committee has a budget of \$5000, they may have the ability to utilize it, with larger amounts being approved by Father Dean and/or Father George.

**Open Item:** Create a list of social services for different scenarios (Greek, Catholic Charity, YMCA, etc)

**Building and Grounds:** There are bids for the new HVAC. They will be presented on Sunday at the General Assembly Meeting to authorize this expenditure.

School Security modifications: Secure doors for classrooms, and also the community center has pre-school classes.

**Motion:** To use up to \$5,000 for a new security door in the classroom corridor. A Demeros / J Pierce **Vote: 11-2-0 Pass**

**Golf Outing:** In process of assembling foursomes and obtaining sponsorships. Please let Angelo know if willing to participate or have sponsorships.

**Motion:** To donate \$250 to sponsor a hole for the first annual Greek Orthodox of Metropolis Golf Outing on September 9, 2019. A Demeros/ E Kiriazopoulos **Vote: 7-6-0 Pass**

### **For the Good of the Parish**

**Automobile:** There are three options to replace Father George's vehicle:

- 1) Buy / Finance a car
- 2) Buy the car in full with cash
- 3) Provide a \$500 allowance per month

Discussion: First two options, the car would remain with the church. Looking at Camry, or a decent size sedan, used.

**Motion:** To approve up to \$20,000 (including \$5700 from the insurance) to finance a certified pre-owned car over 60 months. T Bournias / A Demeros

**Vote: 13-0-0 Pass**

**Photocopy Machine:** R Kozlowski put in the majority of the effort to decide on an appropriate photocopy machine for the church's use. It C-folds, Z-folds, adds staples to booklets on the spine are a few of the features. He negotiated locked rate in maintenance repair fees.

**Fall Food Fest** will take place October 12, 2019. Eleni Kiriazopoulos is chairperson.

**Parish Council Retreat:** November 22-23rd. Please let T Kanelos know if able to join.

**Metropolis of Chicago Clergy Laity:** R Kozlowski, T Kanelos, T Sikoral, and Fr Dean are going. Update: If previously served on the Metropolis Council under Metropolitan Iakovos, not allowed to be an elected nominee for new Council.

**Insurance:** Ongoing research to see which insurance will be better for the church. \$7.5 million to insure the church as a whole, but very rarely does a disaster (fire, etc) demolish the entire structure. Still gathering information.

**Employee Clock-in:**

**Motion:** To install time keeping device for janitors and office staff to clock in and out. T Kanelos / T Karabatsos **Vote: 7-3-3 Pass**

Discussion about lagging pay by 1 week one time only: To ask what C Balabanas thinks and discuss at the next meeting (**Open item**).

**Priest's Remarks:** Happy New Year for the students!

**Motion to adjourn:** P Giannopoulos / A Rizos **Vote: Pass Unanimously**

**Closing Prayers at 10:33pm**

Respectfully submitted:

Krystal Ioannou, Recording Secretary