

**HOLY TAXIARHAI and ST. HARALAMBOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 16, 2019**

Commencement of Meeting: Meeting began with Fr George leading prayers at 7:39pm

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

Absent: N Gianaris, L Konstantellos, T Karabatsos, T Kanelos

Minutes: Review of September 18, 2019 Parish Council Minutes. Correction as to the pricing of hallway door to \$4,500 from \$3,500.

Motion to accept the September 2019 Parish Council Minutes as corrected N Andrews / 2nd E Kiriazopoulos: **Vote 8-0-2 Pass**

Correspondence: Children's Medical Fund is 11/16/19. There is still room if interested to make reservation

Martha and Mary Annual Benefit Dinner on 11/10/19 at St Nicholas--Oak Lawn, seeking donation or sponsorship.

Motion to make a donation to Martha & Mary Benefit Dinner of \$250 G Giolas / 2nd A Koutsikos **Vote 12-0-0 Pass**

Contributions for 2019 to Date: \$2,240

Hippocratic Cancer Research Foundation Banquet (\$500 per ticket); donation sought Wounded Warrior Foundation, Thank you from his Eminence for Metropolitan Golf Outing donation

Motion to table the Treasurer's Report for September 2019 A Koutsikos / 2nd G Giolas **Vote: 14-0-0 Pass**

School Board Report:

- 3 new positions
 - Teaching assistant for morning school
 - Teaching aide for afternoon school
 - Teaching aide for Saturday school
- Staff Approvals
 - Afternoon Greek School:
 - Verda Zaimis replaces Anna Mari
 - **New** teaching aide: Katerina Otto-Batio
 - Saturday School
 - Fotini Vasludis replaces Dimitra Souliotis (Teacher)
 - Georgia Pipikos replaces Alexandra Fronimou (Assistant)
 - Danae Lazarou replaces Marilena Tamvakis (Aide)
 - Christinia Anastasiou replaces Dimitra Krikelas (Teacher)
 - **New** teaching aide: Eva Sypsis
 - Morning School:
 - **New** teaching assistant: Eleni Kakares
- Discussion had to redo the vetting process. Youth Safety Administrator of the Parish (A Koutsikos) will require them to go through a registering process. Require all contact

information including emails. The current teachers have already gone through the Parish's vetting process but the Archdiocese is requiring separate information.

Motion to approve above requests of hiring a new teaching aide for Saturday school and Afternoon school, and a Morning School teaching assistant: J Pierce / 2nd T Bournias **Vote 11-0-3 Pass**

Presentation of the 2019-2020 Draft Budget Summary as of 10/15/2019

Tuitions reviewed from 2018-19 and current 2019-20 year. Discussion had with regards to discretionary funds, and not to hold back with purchasing anything that the schools would need. Discussion had as to how frequent to have members of the School Board present at Parish Council meetings, and treating visiting Board Members with respect and in a non-confrontational manner. Suggestions of: decreasing class size, one laptop for each student, special education teacher, inservice experts for continuing education training for teachers, scholarships, and assessments of schools by 3rd party experts

Response: Many are budget related. More teachers is a budget restriction. Discretionary spending: we do have laptops and ipads in the classrooms but not at the ratios discussed. Scholarships - have a proactive approach and a great idea and how to promote it without people taking advantage of it. Special Education is going to become a priority.

Motion to accept the school Budget as presented: T Sikoral / 2nd E Kiriazopoulos

Vote 13-1-1 Pass

Discussion had about having a separate account for the School Board. What are the appropriate steps to have a line of credit or an account for funds so that discretionary funds are not lost. Historically, the School Budget has been accurately maintained and fiscally responsible.

Fall Fest: E Kiriazopoulos, chairperson: \$3,500 net. Thank you for those that helped, it was an extreme success. The weather was cooperative.

Phase III: Foundation is close to being finished, and ready for steel to be going up.

Stewardship: Luncheon moved to 11/10/19. Pamphlets to describe what defines stewardship. 2018: \$356,651 / 605 families @ \$589 per family. 2019: \$356,828 / 602 families @ \$593 per family

Youth Protection: Another Zoom Meeting today with Fr Kosmas. About 50 parishes have their designated administrators. We are in a time period where we should create a login for getting their credentials. People have started getting their login information through Presidium. Need to gather info, where there is an excel spreadsheet: George and John volunteered to help assemble a list. The link will be sent through Presidium and will take about 2 hours of tutorial training to complete; once completed, Argy will be notified.

Outreach: 3rd Saturday would be designated for Meals on Wheels. Susan Baron has created a group. Feed My Starving Children -- we initially had 60 people. We ended up have about 35-40 people. Consider changing the time that we go (instead of 8 to 9:30pm, choose an earlier time).

Buildings and Grounds: M Pontikes: The door for the school is installed. There were concerns as to the use of the bathroom during church functions such as funerals. The 2 HVAC units on

the roof installed for \$51,000 which includes the electric component (within budget approved). There is a light in the alter that has been out, Mike is looking into it. A speaker that came off the wall needs to be remounted.

Men's Event: Everyone please try to sell 5 tickets, it is one of the stronger fundraisers for the church

2020 Dinner Dance (2/16/20) Looking at several venues, organized by Saturday School PTO. Lambros will work on the adbook.

Budget update: It will show the deficit, changed the Food Fest budget to \$150,000 income rather than \$122,000. There was a change to the Net Operating Income to -\$10,662. It depends on when we have the General Assembly for Budget Approval/review. T Sikoral sent out an email on 10/14/19 with updates from last Budget Meeting. Discussion to remove the mandatory \$50,000 to Capital Fund Account and to have on the agenda for Budget Meeting.

General Assembly is 10/20/19 (If quorum met)

Open Items:

- 1) Varnishing of the doors -- Mike will look into it
- 2) Time Clock - Will have installed tonight
- 3) New laptops for office: would need approximately \$800-\$1000 per machine, for new computers. G Houpis is paying \$40/mo to keep software upgraded.
- 4) Light in the alter & speaker remounting
- 5) Separate Account for School Board

Motion: To change payroll schedule starting January 1, 2020 to have payrolls issued based on hours actually worked with checks issued up to 3 days after the pay period (15th of the month and the end of the month for semimonthly schedules or 3 days after the end of the month for monthly pay period schedules. T Sikoral / 2nd T Bournias: **Vote 11-4-1 Pass**

Fr George: From the Clergy Laity: Burton Place property is up for sale and whatever money they gain will go towards the Metropolis, with a portion going towards an endowment and also set aside a portion for parishes in need of financial support. The Metropolis has a location in Elk Grove for 5 years for free.

Clergy Wellness as part of the Strategic Plan (Clergy are likely to suffer from depression). October is Clergy Appreciation Month.

Nov 22-23 Parish Council Retreat, with possible topics of Clergy Wellness

Feast day is 11/7; 11/8 His Eminence will likely be here

Motion to adjourn: A Rizos / 2nd E Kiriazopoulos **Vote: Unanimous Pass**

Closing Prayers led by Fr George at 10:25pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Krystal Ioannou, Recording Secretary