

**HOLY TAXIARHAI and ST. HARALAMBOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH  
PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES FOR JANUARY 15, 2020**

**Commencement of Meeting:** Meeting began under the chairmanship of Fr Dean, who opened the meeting with prayer at 7:40 pm. Fr George is also present

**Attendance:** N Andrews, B Bozikis, A Demeros, N Gianaris, P Giannopoulos, G Giolas, K Ioannou, T Kanelos, T Karabatsos, E Kiriazopoulos, L Konstantellos, A Koutsikos, R Kozlowski, D Loomos, N Megremis, M Pontikes, A Rizos, T Sikoral

**Absent:** C Agalliu, T Bournias, T Zavos

**Election of Parish Council Officers**

President: E Kiriazopoulos nominated R Kozlowski, he accepted. There were no other nominations and he was elected.

Vice President: B Bozikis nominated N Andrews, he accepted. There were no other nominations and he was elected.

2nd Vice President: L Konstantellos nominated G Giolas, he accepted. There were no other nominations and he was elected.

Treasurer: A Rizos nominated T Sikoral, he accepted. There were no other nominations and he was elected.

1st Assistant Treasurer: A Rizos nominated T Zavos. There were no other nominations and he was elected.

2nd Assistant Treasurer: A Rizos nominated D Loomos, he accepted. There were no other nominations and he was elected.

Secretary: R Kozlowski nominated K Ioannou, she accepted. There were no other nominations and she was elected.

2nd Assistant Secretary: T Kanelos nominated A Koutsikos, she accepted. There were no other nominations and she was elected.

Fr. Dean turned chairmanship of the meeting to the President, Richard Kozlowski. He welcomed Nick Megremis and Tom Zavos to the Council.

Thank you to Bill Bozikis, George Houpis, and Anthony Rizos for serving as prior treasurers.

**St Haralambos Security Plan** presented by A Kereakes, decorated law enforcement officer. Discussion had with regards of AED machine and properly training staff, teachers, etc for Emergency Medical Response. We will need 4 AEDs given the size of the church property. It was suggested to see if a squad car could be on site during services.

**Motion** to approve the December 2019 Parish Council Minutes: T Kanelos/ 2nd T Karabatsos:

**Vote: 12-0-5 Pass**

**Motion** to table December 2019 Financials: T Kanelos / 2nd T Sikoral **Vote 17-0-0 Pass**

**Youth Protection Policy:** There are 116 individuals identified and sent links to complete background check and coursework. 47 have been certified. Background check is the primary concern. New deadline is Jan 31, 2020 for submitting all certificates for coursework and background check. There's a second part to the coursework that some people are missing. A letter will be devised and sent out with certificates by the deadline.

**Phase III :** as long as the weather is not freezing, construction work can continue. We still need to do significant fundraising. Anticipated date that we will run out of funds may be June. The exterior plumbing/electrical will be finished. Discussion had about displaying names of those who have donated on the board, stewardship, Phase III donation. Also discussed having a marketing company help with fundraising. Discussed having more one-on-one conversations with people in church. Greater than 50% of the parish has not donated. Angelo will take on part of the fundraising, he is requesting a vetted list of those who have not pledged/donated. Discussion had with regards to online fundraising, engraved bricks, giving trees. There will be plaques.

**Stewardship:** Kiosk installed in the hallway.

Total stewardship for 2019: 665 families pledged \$384,620. For 2018: 648 families pledged \$380,473. Discussion had with regards to students' families being stewards at our church versus at another church or not at any church. 63 families pledge \$1,000-\$1,500 per year, which accounts for 20% of total stewardship pledged. Further breakdown given as to the range of stewardship pledges.

**Outreach:** MoW on Saturday. Next Bessie's table is January 27th 2020 & February 24th 2020.

**Buildings & Grounds:** Lights over the altar that need to be changed, it is expensive to get a lift, the old dimming system will work. **Motion** to spend \$950 for lightbulbs and lift: M Pontikes/2nd A Demeros **Vote:Unanimous Pass.** Switched zones for smoke detectors. Everything is working and in service now. Camera live feed is working with network cable so it is faster; as of Sunday operational and working for the livestream of services. There is a St Haralambos channel on YouTube.

**Dinner Dance:** Please consider signing up for helping with the silent auction for the 2020 Anniversary Dinner Dance.

**Adbook:** Philoptochos donated \$2500 to the adbook, please see Lambros for Parish Council ad in the adbook of \$25 per council member. Goal is \$20,000 to raise with the adbook.

**Servant Leadership Award:** The deadline for nominations is January 29th. There is a nomination form, which will also be mailed out.

**Legal: Motion** to petition for filing of a probate estate to determine what assets still remain if any from the estate of a deceased parishioner who had named St Haralambos as her sole beneficiary in her will prepared in 2014. T Kanelos/ 2nd T Karabatsos. **Motion** was amended to allow up to \$1,000 to initiate the court proceedings. **Vote 16-0-1 Pass**

R Kozlowski attended a Parish Council Presidents meeting with the Metropolitan. There was also a clergy meeting. Due to a funeral, the clergy meeting was not attended. The Presidents meeting was updates on finances and obligations to the Archdiocese which included Holy Trinity and a few smaller parishes who couldn't make ends meet. His Eminence wants to do fundraising at the Metropolis level so that they may help smaller parishes in need. Various parishes have different activities they may "specialize" in, and the question was raised with whether all churches have to have all of similar activities.

**Priests Remarks:** Brief discussion on moving forward with publications of Visions newsletter. There is a lot of legwork with putting it together. Consensus is to keep it as is. We were talking about a handicap sign near the ramp in the front of the chairs. Fr Dean spoke about being more spiritual and loving God. For this year, we can look at having a Parish Council Retreat and having a speaker. Is there a difference between being faithful and being spiritual?

**Motion to Adjourn:** T Sikoral/2nd A Rizos **Vote: Unanimous Pass**

Closing prayers led by Fr Dean at 10:40pm

Respectfully Submitted by

Krystal Ioannou, Recording Secretary