

**HOLY TAXIARHAI and ST. HARALAMBOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES FOR JUNE 17, 2020**

Commencement of Meeting: The Parish Council meeting began at 7:08pm with prayers being led by Father Dean via Zoom. Father George is also present.

Attendance: T Bournias, W 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, T Zavos

Absent: C Agalliu, N Andrews

President's Remarks: Thank you for taking the time to join us. If you know anyone that needs assistance, please email, call or text me.

Minutes: Minutes to be postponed for later in the meeting. Minutes in 2020 pending for approval include April, May, and executive from February & April.

Telos Project: Led by K Anastasiadis. Katie provided a youtube link for Parish Council members in attendance view. Condensed link provided by Katie: <https://youtu.be/-eRrdjpA36o>

The Telos Project is initiated through the Office of Vocation & Ministry from the Hellenic College Holy Cross. The goal of the project is to revitalize the Youth Ministries. St Haralambos is in the Gamma group. Phase I of the project, which is the learning phase, where leaders of the project are provided concrete direction and guidance for community mapping activities. For example, the church was mapped, paying attention to where the youth were during coffee hour and who they would sit with. There is also guidance for providing empathetic conversations and asking very specific questions, such as where they were in life, what energizes them, what questions do they have about their faith, what was their experience in the church growing up. Also the youth were asked what are ways the Church showed up when they needed it, and when the church didn't show up when they needed it. The group will meet Tuesday at 6:30. Only 5 parishes have applied to be part of the project in the metropolitan area. The age group of focus is between the ages of 22-29 years of age. The plan is to revitalize young adult ministry at St Haralambos, and maybe also focus on other age groups in our community. In the next phase, the project leaders will look to meet with other parishes to discuss data. Father George discussed watching a documentary titled "Becoming Truly Human". The motive of the person is to listen with love. A sneak peak at some of the data collected: some youth feel more comfortable only if they are with other people, or having a connection. Some wished they had more information about the church coming out of high school. The topic will again be added to the August 19th Parish Council Meeting Agenda for further updates of the Telos Project.

After Katie had exited the meeting, there was a **motion** to enter executive session to discuss executive minutes (**Vote: 14-0-0 Pass Unanimously**) and a **motion** to exit executive session (**Vote: 14-0-0**) made by T Kanelos / 2nd K Ioannou both to enter and exit. No discussion took place. Review of above mentioned minutes were postponed for next month.

Financials: Led by T Sikoral. Financial statement through May 31, 2020 was sent out to the parish council via email before the meeting. Also, a financial summary from January through May 2020 along with forecasts were provided. The operating deficit of \$14,000 will drop when we utilize the Payroll Protection Program (PPP) funds and as we gain more stewardship and other donations (candles, etc). We will use as much of the PPP (\$144,000 total) towards rents, utilities, payroll as we can for 8 weeks. There may be a very small amount to pay back. Discussion had that we can use the funding over a longer period of time. Schools are showing negative, but the PPP will be applied to salaries as the school year goes from September to June. We haven't collected as much as in the past (about \$8,000 difference) but there will not be a deficit for the schools. T Sikoral says he would like to allocate \$10,000 into a savings account so there is no overdraft. Discussion had as to having direct deposit with payroll - 5/3rd offers direct deposit.

Motion to accept the May 31, 2020 Financial report P Giannopoulos / 2nd E Kiriazopoulos
Vote: 13-0-2 Pass.

Agape Ministry: Led by T Kanelos. The ministry is going very well, we have had very few returned receipts. We have distributed in the range of 30 to 96 bags of grocery staples weekly. Thank you to Christos Agalliu, T Karabatsos sons, R Kozlowski, A Koutsikos, G Giolas. People receiving the staples are very grateful. We have received a few checks from St Peter and Paul, one for \$450 and another for \$250. They are also providing items for donation.

Stewardship: As of June 17, 2020, 446 families have pledged \$317,535, or \$728 average per family. One year ago, 507 families pledged \$316,927, or \$625 average per family. There is a new feature that allows parishioners to text their donation through the VANCO system. Of note, usually by this time we would have more families contributing their stewardship early for the school enrollment of next year, but it may be down this year because there is still uncertainty.

Phase III: Led by Perry. We have to renew the line of credit with 5/3rd to keep everything in place. They lowered the line of credit from \$480,000 to \$250,000 with a rate of 5½%. We are hopeful that we will not need it. In order to renew, there is a processing fee of \$400, with an appraisal required.

Motion: To approve to renew the existing line of credit with a lower limit of \$250,000 with 5/3rd bank. T Sikoral / 2nd A Koutsikos. Discussion, we don't need general assembly approval because it is within original limits. **Vote: 16-0-0 Pass Unanimously**

Motion: To extend the construction loan line of credit until April 2021. T Sikoral / 2nd T Zavos Discussion, in the case we do not receive any outstanding pledges. **Vote: 16-0-0 Pass Unanimously**

Discussion had with the building project. Roof is being worked on. There is \$25,000 in the budget for paving the parking lot, not the sidewalks. To do the sidewalks and paving in the front and the back is \$90,000, which is \$65,000 over the original budget but still a good deal. All areas around the new building are being redone. The Trailer and garage may have to be moved, perhaps to the North East corner of the lot.

Motion: To approve \$200,000 to project for paving, basketball court, and stage. T Sikoral / G Giolas. Discussion: Some of the \$100,000 was accounted for in the original \$4 million budget. **Vote: 16-0-0 Pass Unanimously.**

G Giolas: Thank you to all those that were involved with the Phase III miracle. We are truly blessed to have such a strong team of leaders within our parish.

Reopening the Church with Covid-19 Precautions: Led by T Sikoral. The committee is looking into a GPS system (Global Plasma Solutions) which kills 99.4% of covid virus in 30 minutes with UV light directly in the air duct. Will provide more information to Perry.

Phase III Classrooms: Led by P Giannopoulos. Via screen share, Perry showed us a map of the new building, and a different map of the community center. Looking at the sketches, it was discussed if we should move forward and build out 3 additional classrooms in the community center since we have the contractors there, and/or decide if we want to build the 2 new classrooms in the new building in addition. The classroom sketches were compliant with DCFS standards and would cost about \$125 to \$150,000 to do the 3 classrooms. These quotes are some rough prediction costs and some are proposals. Discussion had as to what we see for the future, and if we could wait for the additional 2 classrooms until we see how we want to use the space in the new building. We can use temporary partitions until we decide in the new building. Each classroom built in the community center would have its own door, new outdoor masonry, new plumbing. We would need new drawings, permits, perhaps even fire sprinklers. It is unlikely to be completed by September. Discussion also had if we should leave the kitchen as is, for use as needed.

Schools: Led by T Zavos. All three programs concluded last weekend. The year end programs were modified due to the Covid-19. E-learning in general was an effective replacement. Next school year will move forward with various scenarios, (1) full class; (2) full e-learning; or (3) a hybrid of the two previous options. The school budget ended with 96% collection of tuition.

\$19,000 unpaid tuition spans about 35 families. Still have a \$53,000 gross profit. After the Church expense allocation of \$58,000 and with \$63,000 of PPP allocated to schools, net the schools are \$57,900 profitable. Next year, because of unknowns, the school board is estimated to have a lot less students. There may be people who aren't comfortable bringing in their kids to classrooms. If it is decided to go to E-learning, there may be a low turnout for the morning school since parents drop off before work.

For the Good of the Parish: Led by R Kozlowski. The reopening of the church occurred June 6-8th. Things went smoothly and on June 14th, we started with 40 people including 10 ushers. Services to be expanded to 80 people next, following state and CDC guidelines. Ushers prevented congregating at exit points, and everyone participated in social distancing. Pews were open every other row. Father Dean mentioned that few modifications have taken place with regards to the sacraments. For example, reduced wedding party size, and attendance caps. We still need ushers for baptisms, weddings, etc. Fr George: He has gotten in touch with others outside of the Parish Council to assist with ushering.

Discussion had with regards to the clergy succession of the Church.

Motion to adjourn: E Kiriazopoulos / A Rizos **Vote Pass Unanimously**

Closing prayers led by Father Dean at 10:52pm.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Krystal Ioannou,
Recording Secretary