

**HOLY TAXIARHAI and ST. HARALAMBOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 21, 2020**

Commencement of Meeting: The Parish Council meeting began at 7:10 pm with prayers being led by Father Dean via Zoom. Father George is also present.

Attendance: C Agalliu, N Andrews, B Bozikis, T Bournias, A Demeros, P Giannopoulos, N Gianaris, G Giolas, K Ioannou, T Kanelos, E Kiriazopoulos, L Konstantellos, R Kozlowski, D Loomos, N Megremis, M Pontikes, T Sikoral, T Zavos

Absent: T Karabatsos, A Koutsikos, A Rizos

Minutes: Led by K Ioannou.

Motion: To approve the September 18, 2020 Parish Council minutes,
N Megremis / 2nd T Zavos **Vote: 9-0-6 Pass Unanimously**

Motion: To approve the October 7, 2020 Parish Council Budget meeting minutes
N Megremis / 2nd P Giannopoulos **Vote 11-0-5 Pass Unanimously**

Motion: To approve the October 7, 2020 Parish Council Executive Session minutes
G Giolas / 2nd T Kanelos **Vote: 11-0-5 Pass Unanimously**

Treasurer's Report: Led by T Sikoral

Motion: To Table the August 2020 Financials report. T Kanelos / 2nd N Megremis
Vote: 15-0-1 Pass Unanimously

Motion: To Table the September 2020 Financials report. E Kiriazopoulos / 2nd G Giolas
Vote: 16-0-0 Pass Unanimously

Committee Reports

Cleaning Vendors: Led by R Kozlowski. We have been obtaining quotes from cleaning vendors to maintain cleaning services. Current expenditures for cleaning totaled approximately \$75,000. The cleaning service company should be able to clean during school hours, Sundays after liturgy, after evening meetings, for both buildings. Should also include all the cleaning of all equipment. We are looking at BSA company to fulfill the church's cleaning needs. They also clean for St John's. Hope to have Andy and Nick Andrews, along with other few people to walk with the cleaners through the buildings.

Motion: To hire BSA janitorial service on a month to month contract with annual cost \$70,000 in to include all scope of cleaning. T Sikoral / 2nd A Demeros **Vote 16-0-0 Pass Unanimously**

Air Environmental Control: Led by T Sikoral.

Prior to meeting, emails were sent out, both months prior and recently before parish council meeting, regarding Global Plasma Solutions (GPS) company, which installs Needlepoint Bi-Polar Ionization (NBPI) units to help clean the air (micro pathogens including virus, bacteria, mold spores, etc) and remove odors. Also included was a summary of results from various laboratories testing effectiveness of NBPI in a controlled chamber environment of various pathogens, and a 15 minute interview podcast of the inventor/owner of the GPS unit. Discussion

was had whether or not to incorporate this technology to St Haralambos buildings. Many facilities are installing these systems, including police stations, banks. It helps the efficiency of the units and air does not have to pass through for it to work.

Reasons for not installing: Parish Council is unable to spend more than \$35,000 out of budget; any more will need to have a general assembly. There is no real-world data that demonstrates a decrease in cases of Covid-19, etc. There are no plans for major hospital systems in the area to install (Dr. T Bournias, on Board of Medicine with Northwestern Health Systems). A lower cost alternative may be to install individual air purifiers for the classrooms; this may only total about \$2,000. We can change the current filters from merv 8 to merv 13. The decision was made not to install GPS NBPI.

School Board: Led by T Zavos.

School Board Operating Budget for 2020-2021 presented to the Parish Council. Budget document was sent via email to the council prior to the meeting. There were a lot of austerity measures, including staff reductions, and position downgrades. The budget is estimated to cover \$8,000 out of the \$58,000 of Church expenses, which is an \$8,000 improvement from what was presented in September. Total students enrolled: 198. The PTA bought books. The biggest risk is an increase in Covid-19 positivity rate may lead to schools being shut down. The morning program is not preferred for E-learning. The budget presented does not reflect last year's PPP. Further reduction in the budget is not possible right now.

Motion: To approve the School Board Operating Budget for 2020-2021 as presented.

T Bournias / 2nd E Kiriazopoulos. **Discussion:** We are approving this to be within the overall budget. **Vote: 15-0-1 Pass Unanimously.** T Zavos abstained from vote.

Also presented prior to the meeting via email was Peggy Kontos' resume. She is applying for a Saturday, Level-2 position, with salary included within the School 2020-2021 Operating Budget previously presented. Resume of Peggy Kontos was provided in an email to Parish Council by T Zavos prior to the meeting.

Motion: To hire Peggy Kontos for Saturday, Level 2 position. E Kiriazopoulos / 2nd N Andrews.

Vote: 13-0-3 Pass Unanimously. T Zavos abstained from the vote.

Voting on the School Board as Employee: Led by T Kanelos. Discussion had regarding the potential conflict of interest of paid staff of the school voting on the School Board, especially on financial decisions. Currently there are 10 members of the School Board, 8 which are voting. 3 of those voting members are paid staff of the school (3 are employees of the school, one office staff). There are 3 directors on the Board, presidents of all three PTAs, principle, and 3 to 5 appointed members. The directors have not been voting on recent financial decisions of the schools including the recent austerity measures taken. The School Board will accept the Parish Council's decision: If amending the School By-Laws, the hope is to not to be in conflict with the spirit of the UPR and to follow the rules of the Archdiocese. T Kanelos to check with the Metropolis and/or Archdiocese for further guidance. School Board members that are paid staff of the school are to continue to abstain from voting on financial matter decisions in the meantime.

Stewardship: Led by G Giolas. As of yesterday (Oct 20, 2020), 557 families pledged \$365,252 or \$656 per family. This time last year (Oct 14, 2019), 602 families pledged \$356,828 or \$592 per family. There is a Stewardship Committee meeting on Tuesday Oct 27, 2020. The committee is considering adding short educational videos in an effort to gain more community involvement. The stewardship card for 2021 is in progress.

Drive Thru Food Festival: Led by P Giannopoulos. Thank you to everyone that offered their time. We were blessed with decent weather, and it was a successful event for the first year. We had a lot of volunteers of all ages. There were positive remarks on surveys. Approximately 1000 orders were filled. On Zoom, there was a share screen of an excel sheet of Deposits, Expenses, and Redbook. The largest expenses were the meats and 50/50 raffle. Savings included costs for security, parking, tables/chairs, and tents. The community was happy that St Haralambos hosted this event. There are still a few hundred frozen souvlakia left for sale to the parish if interested in purchasing; a separate email reminder may be sent out.

Phase III: Led by P Giannopoulos. The painting, bathrooms, carpet tiles are being completed. The order is being finalized for the stage. Next decision will be to decide the color of the gym floor. Storage rooms have been emptied. On Thursday at 4:00pm, volunteers will be emptying the pods in the parking lot. They have been renting the pods for about \$250 / month, and they are hoping to get them picked up by Saturday morning. The project overall is still within budget, and pledges are being fulfilled. All funds from the Gold Coast account have been cleared, there is now about \$200,000 in the 5/3rd account, and we are not expecting to have a long term mortgage. We hope to use the middle building by November. The general contractor said the elevator is inspected and set up.

Agape: Led by T Kanelos. The food donations are going very well. Fliers were circulated. There will be a change in the distribution time beginning the first week of November, 3-4pm. 12 tons of food have been distributed. Purchasing items in bulk to save on cost. Online donations have kept the ministry operating well within the allocated budget for Outreach.

Smoker: Led by A Demeros. The event will be live-streamed from the community center, or ideally from the new building. \$25 from the ticket will go towards a church ministry (tbd, Agape considered). Tickets are \$125.

New Facility: Led by D Loomos. Share screen of data collected in categories: Person in charge, priority of use, contracts, areas of usage, rental fees, and other. Other parishes that were polled: St John (Des Plaines), St Demetrios (Elmhurst), St George (Chicago), St Nectarios (Palatine), St Constantine & Helen (Palos). Would like someone from the school board to be on the committee and even a faculty member. Current committee members include: D Loomos, T Kanelos, A Koutsikos, E Kiriazopoulos, M Dimitriou, E Kozlowski.

For the the Good of the Parish:

It's an enjoyment to see so much of our youth involved, and working together and being involved, and joining our parish.

Motion: To enter executive session: L Konstantellos / 2nd T Kanelos

Vote: 16-0-0, Pass Unanimously

Motion: To exit executive session: T Kanelos / 2nd L Konstantellos

Vote: 16-0-0, Pass Unanimously

Donation request: St John is having a Gala, motion to provide \$300 sponsorship for their gala. Motion retracted (L Konstantellos). Contact Lambro to send check from Parish Council (\$15 per person)

Iconography: We have not been in touch with iconographer in recent months

General Assembly: If willing to continue on Parish Council or not, please let R Kozlowski know so that positions may be replaced. If elections are held, we will need to publicize, have a date to cast votes while maintaining social distance. The Board of Elections is usually decided at a General Assembly meeting. The By-Laws state no absentee ballots, parishioners would have to come in person to vote. If elections are deferred, those that were up for election can be re-elected for a one year term (next year) so that council members due for re-elections remain balanced year to year. Parish Council Budget meeting to take place 10/29/20 at 7:00 pm for final Parish Council Approval. Notice for the Board of Elections and General Assembly can be sent out for a meeting date of Wednesday, November 11, 2020 with an alternative date of Sunday, November 15, 2020.

Motion: To authorize treasurers to move \$433,000 in restricted funds into 1 month CDs. P Giannopoulos / 2nd N Megremis **Vote: 13-0-1 Pass Unanimously**

Motion to Adjourn: E Kiriazopoulos / 2nd G Giolas **Vote 14-0-0 Pass Unanimously**

Closing prayers led by Fr Dean at 11:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Krystal Ioannou, Recording Secretary