

Holy Taxiarchai and St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church-Niles, Illinois
Parish Council Minutes for January 18, 2017

Commencement of Meeting: The Parish Council meeting began at 7:47 p.m. with Father Dean leading us in prayer and who present for the duration of the meeting. Father George was also in attendance. President Giannopoulos presided over the meeting, for its duration, and Argy Koutsikos, as recording secretary, recorded the matters addressed.

Parish Council Members in Attendance: Present: P Giannopoulos, T Kanelos, A Koutsikos, A Rizos, R Kozlowski, W Bozikis, K Ioannou, N Andrews, D Houpis, A Demeros, D Loomos, K Apithis, T Bournias, L Konstantellos . Also present in observance but not as a voting member was newly elected member G Giolas.

Absent: M Pontikes, T Karabatsos, C Agalliu, J Aliferis, N Gianaris, T Sikoral, E Kiriazopoulos.

President's Remarks: Members in attendance were greeted by President Giannopoulos. All were wished a Happy New Year and thanked for all their efforts last year-- exciting new year before us with much to accomplish.

Father Dean advised that all the newly elected members were ratified by the Archdiocese and all will take oath at the conclusion of service on 1-22-17; short meeting to take place thereafter to elect officers for 2017.

Minutes: Minutes from the 11-16-2016 meeting were reviewed. Corrections made. **Motion:** To approve minutes as corrected by 1st R Kozlowski/2nd K Apithis **Vote: 11-0-1**

Minutes from the 12-21-2016 meeting were reviewed-discussion and corrections made.

Motion:To approve minutes as corrected by 1st L Konstantellos/ 2nd A Rizos **Vote: 9-0-3**

Correspondence:

- 1) Thank you note from Father Dean to P.C. for Christmas gift.
- 2) St. Andrews request for sponsorship of its 90th Gala Anniversary dinner dance. **Motion:** To make a \$100.00 donation by 1st T Kanelos/2nd D Houpis **Vote: 12-0-1**
- 3) OCN's request for parishes across the nation to participate in supporting the next generation of Orthodox leaders by highlighting 30 Greek Orthodox Christians under 30 years old.
- 4) Crossroads Hellenic College thank you for donation for \$100.00.
- 5) Mission Team Chicago announcement of the 19th Annual Mission benefit to support OCMC -to be held on 2-23-2017 at St. John the Baptist.

Treasurer's Report: **Motion:** To table the 12-31-16 financial report made by 1st A Koutsikos/2nd T Kanelos **Vote: 13-0-0**

Committee Reports:

66th Annual Anniversary Banquet: This year the event will be a luncheon/brunch on 2-12-2017. Hours 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Family friendly with kid entertainment as well as music by D.J. Parish Council will place an ad in the ad book and all who are willing to contribute should give money to any of the treasurer officers.

Phase III: Meeting scheduled with the subcontractor on 1-19-2017. Thereafter the structure committee will schedule its meeting. The fund raising aspect of the project will also move forward to get to its next level.

Outreach Committee: T Kanelos provided information that 1-23-2017 will be the next date for Bessie's Table food kitchen.

Building and Grounds: No report

Stewardship Report: 2017 Stewardship Committee member L Konstantellos reported that the Parish Survey has now received 123 responses (survey open till 2-15-2017). Some of the data results include strengths identified as: the Greek School; Sunday School; Food Fest (noted by 50%); the strong bonds amongst the parishioners. Some of the constructive criticisms/needed improvements identified as: structural facility needs improvements-expansion of the community center; length of service. Some information was given as to interpreting Gizmo's survey scale of 1-10 to determine satisfaction and what the response ratings connote. Thus far our survey results show we are at a 47% response rating ; to put that into prospective 42% fall into the "neutral " category--this means on the survey scale there are ratings of 6-7-8 that connotes "some engagement". Break down was given as to what age group has thus far completed most of the surveys (35-44 and 55-54 age groups). Overall it seems that there is an equal amount of survey takers who feel welcomed and just as many who do not; indication that those responding attend church 2-3xs a month; 75% are stewards; 10-15%are stewards of another church; there were only two isolated responses that had an axe to grind. A welcoming committee is also something the stewardship committee has undertaken. Also noted is that out of the stewardship forms filled out last year only 50% indicated that there was an interest in some of the ministries offered that they would like to volunteer for/assist in.

School Board: Meeting will be held on Saturday 1-21-2017 to set upcoming school year's tuition rates. D Houpis asked for the identity of the School Board members which were identified.

For the Good of the Parish:

Fundraisers: before you know it the 2017 Food Fest meeting will begin; discussion as to having raffle tickets available by Holy Week;

Lamb Roast cook-off date chosen -- 4-22-2017;

Variety Show is something that was suggested by A Koutsikos and to give further though as to what, when and where;

Stewardship Committee to consider doing some low key events to embrace the goal of intimacy versus formality;

Discussion of doing a B.B.Q. competitive cook-off in September on a Friday afternoon/evening;

Annual Golf Outing date chosen--9-21-17.

D Houpis sought out 3 quotes totaling \$1,100.00 that would address painting certain areas inside the Church effected by water/paint damage (I.e. in front of the left pillar, behind and around the right chanting area, left area behind the thermostat) with cost of approximately \$450.00 ; a quote for an additional \$250.00 was given to repaint the Narthex; to repaint the Community Center quote is @\$400.00. Discussion had that standard procedures and certificates of insurance need to be in place before start of any painting as aforementioned.

Motion: Approve spending of up to \$1,100. 00 for all three proposed areas to be painted made by 1st A Demeros/ 2nd K Apithis **Vote: 12-0-1**

R Kozlowski gave a report that he meet with a contractor after said vendor came on the premises and evaluated all the HVAC units-found that a lot of the existing equipment are out dated and suggested preventive maintenance needs to be done on all units; found some of the equipment/units have never had any maintenance because of where located and difficulty to access. The vendor's recommendation is quarterly maintenance which would cost @ \$3,035.00 or 12-13k annually.

Further discussion as to reviewing overall capital expenditure plan: I.e. what is replacement plan

of equipment in future; how access equipment; identify vendor source, etc. and this way can create a budget plan accordingly.

Discussion then turned to replacing units versus maintenance of same.

President Giannopoulos had a vendor come and inspect the property to also provide quote for needed repairs and/or replacements. Roof was inspected as well and work proposed was remove drains and replace same, scuppers replaced and general maintenance work done with a quote not to exceed \$25,000.00 (see attached hereto a copy of quote proposal provided to P Giannopoulos).

D Houpis was asked to have the painter also look at the far corner classroom to see how much it would cost to repaint same.

Motion: Spending not to exceed \$35,000.00 for the necessary roofing And masonry repairs after 3 proposal are in hand and reviewed by Building and Grounds Committee chairs made by 1st A Demeros/2nd D Houpis **Vote: unanimous**

Further discussion for need to research the replacement of windows for the classrooms and resolved to have 3 quotes by next P.C. meeting to discuss.

Next meeting will be held on 2-15-17 which will start at 7:00 p.m. to begin with an orientation for all P.C. members and the requisite retraining for members; Roberts Rules followed for the meeting.

Father Dean advised that Jolynn has asked for the use of a credit card in order to make purchases for the Book Store - discussion as to use of debit card, corporate card or reimbursement to Jolynn if purchased on her own card and receipts submitted.

Father Dean wished all P.C. members a Happy New Year and reminded us that this Sunday we will take the oath of office and following the oath we will vote for P.C. officers.

Motion to adjourn made by 1st A Rizos/ 2nd L Konstantellos -adjourned 10:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted ,

Argy Koutsikos, Recording Secretary

Open Items for resolution:

1) School programs to be assessed by professional team of educators. 2) Basketball hoop for the youth. 3) Parish Council going as a group to St. Iakovos Retreat Center. 4) Circulate copy of Parish Bylaws to all Parish Council members