

Holy Taxiarchai and St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church-Niles, Illinois
Parish Council Minutes for August 16, 2017

Commencement of Meeting: The Parish Council meeting began at 7:40 p.m. with Father Dean leading us in prayer and who was present for the duration of the meeting. President Giannopoulos presided over the meeting, for its duration, and Argy Koutsikos, as assistant recording secretary, recorded the matters addressed. Also present was Father George.

Parish Council Members in Attendance: Present: P Giannopoulos, T Kanelos, A Koutsikos, A Rizos, R Kozlowski, W Bozikis, C Ioannou, D Houppis, A Demeros, D Loomos, N Gianaris, T Bournias, M Pontikes. T Karabatsos, G Giolas, C Agalliu, L Konstantellos

Absent: T Sikoral, E Kiriazopoulos, K Apithis, N Andrews,

President's Remarks: Members in attendance were greeted by President Giannopoulos. He thanked all for the hard work and help they put into making the Food Fest a success.

Minutes: Minutes from the June 2017 meeting were not available.

Motion: To table the June, 2017 minutes until the next meeting made by 1st T Kanelos/2nd T Karabatsos **Vote:** 11-0-1

Correspondence:

- 1) Donation request from Little City - **Motion:** To make a \$300.00 donation made by T Kanelos/2nd T Bournias **Vote: unanimous**
- 2) Thank you acknowledgement to Parish Council for ad book sponsorship supporting our Anniversary Luncheon.
- 3) Thank you acknowledgement from St. Andrews for our \$500.00 donation supporting 13th annual Pan Hellenic Youth Ball.
- 4) Pan Hellenic Scholarship mailing.
- 5) Save the date announcing the celebration of 125th year of Orthodoxy Service to be followed by luncheon on 9-30-17. Request also for help in ushering and financial assistance from parishes to help fray cost of event. **Motion:** To make \$1000.00 donation made by 1st T Kanelos/2nd R Kozlowski **Vote: 13-1-0**
- 6) Thank you acknowledgement from IOCC for our previous donation.

Treasurer's Report: Financial reports from 6-30-17 reviewed with certain line items discussed. **Motion:** To accept 6-30-17 financial report made by 1st T Karabatsos /2nd N Gianaris **Vote: 13-0-0**

Committee Reports:

Food Fest-preliminary report shows that it was the highest grossing fest ever grossing just over \$400,000.00; highest attendance on a Sunday (@ 10k people); weekend over 20k in attendance; anticipate net to be @ 200-210k. The raffle prize winner will select the vehicle so will have to factor the additional cost related to that prize. L Konstantellos suggested that a "task force" fest committee be formed to analyze how to best capitalize on the event to realize a greater net of proceeds. **Motion:** To create a Fest optimization committee to look at ways to keep more gross revenue, to be comprised at minimum of 3 parish council members and 2 non-parish council members, recommendations to be presented to P.C. for vote and to be adhered to by the Food Fest committee---discussion---Motion withdrawn.

Discussion had and established by Parish Council to start a Food Fest optimization analysis committee: Chairpersons L Konstantellos and R Kozlowski. Volunteer committee members T Bournias and N Gianaris.

2) Stewardship- As of 8-1-17 528 families have pledged \$279,297.00 in comparison to 8-16-16 when 578 families pledged \$308,902.00 in stewardship commitment.

3) 2018 Stewardship program- G Giolas provided update information on committee's efforts - next meeting 8-18-17; consider if it would be prudent to have a Stewardship Committee budget; committee will work on a Parish Handbook; committee sent out to all chairperson(s) a request to get information particular to the respective ministries but have only received @ 9 responses-it was suggested that each P.C. member assume @ 4-5 ministries to follow up with the chairperson(s) as a liaison for the Stewardship Committee -there would be a checklist of information sought and thereafter would require intermittent follow-up for updates.

4) Iconography- Mr. Haralambos Fotiadis has offered to complete all the remaining iconography for \$250,000 (reduction from original \$300,000 quote) with a payment plan over 5 year term. It is understood that no funding for same would come from Phase III but there are those who would support/fund completion of iconography and not Phase III -discussion: the iconography should not be attached to Phase III expansion as it is separate. Further discussion consensus that this is an item that should be presented to the parish in a General Assembly. Suggested that Father Dean discuss with potential donors and if there is 40%-50% of financial amount committed then need to determine if discussion can be had with iconographer for yet another reduction in price terms.

5) Phase III- thought is to present to General Assembly an update and present the opportunity to modify original expansion project that was voted on-- the option to be presented is not to renovate the existing building but proceed with the new additional structure.

6) October Fest (on 9/23 & 9/24/17) info on website NilesOktoberfest.com. This is scaled down version of food fest ; 4 bands secured -afternoon bands 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.) will be Polka bands; Saturday night cover band TBD (7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.); Sunday night 16 Candles cover band.

Food menu and drinks for sale discussed. Entry charge \$5.00 before 5 p.m. and \$10.00 thereafter. Food vender also able to provide back-up food if selling out. Expenses consist of 4 categories: a) Rentals @ \$8,500.00 b) Overhead-i.e. band, security, lights, marketing- @ \$25,400.00 c) Food d) Drinks @ \$4,000. Beer. Suggested cost @ \$45,000.00

Motion: To approve but not exceed an amount of \$50,000.00 in total costs for Niles Oktoberfest for the weekend of 9/23 & 9/24 specifics as discussed, made by 1st N Gianaris/2nd R Kozlowski

Vote: 13-1-0

7) Golf Outing- (9/21/17) to date 60 golfers; have donations and prizes totaling @ \$8,900.00 ; projected to net \$16,500(+)

8) Phase III- still in discussion with general contractor--i.e. number of line items and to bring costs down to 5.5-5.6 million range-- also looking at doing the expansion in a "phase" approach without compromise of design.

9) School Board- Pre-registration on par as of this time last year.

10) Building and Grounds- painters to come and paint the 2 rooms that had drywall done; exterior doors to be addressed as in need to restore finish; to determine if will do striping of parking lot.

11)Tailgate Party-Save the date of 9-10-17

For Good of the Parish:

On March 25, 2018 P.C. will have the coffee hour and should actually have a luncheon -free will. Insurance policy review- 2 documents presented showing existing coverage policy and other competitive quotes. **Motion:** To purchase insurance coverage through ASCO as proposed made by 1st A Koutsikos/2nd T Kanelos **Vote: 14-0-0**

St Nicholas Shrine poster to be created by M Pontikes and C Ioannou -suggestion is that it be present at the Oktoberfest - can solicit donations and also do a 50/50 raffle with 100% of the proceeds to go to the St. Nicholas Shrine project.

The assessment of our parish commitment to the Metropolis will be at a 9% increase this coming year-to factor into next year's budget.

FYI- Midwest Hellenic Dance Festival for the Metropolis of Chicago in October, 2017. **Motion:** To make a \$200.00 donation made 1st T Bournias/2nd A Demeros **Vote: 13-1-1**

Motion to adjourn 1st T Karabatsos/2nd A Rizos -meeting adjourned 10:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Argy Koutsikos, Acting 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.