

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

Commencement of Meeting: The Parish Council meeting began at 7:50 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, A Koutsikos, A Rizos, R Kozlowski, W Bozikis, C Ioannou, D Houpis, A Demeros, D Loomos, E Kiriazopoulos, G Giolas, C Agalliu, N Andrews, L Konstantellos
Absent: T Sikoral, T Kanelos, K Apithis, N Gianaris, T Bournias, M Pontikes, T Karabatsos.

President's Remarks: Members in attendance were greeted by President Giannopoulos. He distributed the minutes of the August 16, 2017 Parish Council meeting, as well as a handout from the school board.

Minutes: September minutes were not available. The minutes from the Aug 16, 2017 meeting were reviewed. **Motion:** To approve the 8-16-17 minutes with correction made by 1st A Koutsikos/2ndC Agalliu **Vote: 9-0-2**

School Board Report: Floor was turned over to Olympia Bournias. P.C. was provided with a bar graph showing the growth of the Aristotle Greek School enrollment over the last ten years. A summary was provided of the 2016-2017 School Budget which included details such as there was a 246 student enrollment and "hardship" line item that totaled \$10,480 (budgeted \$6,000)- a line item breakdown report was provided. Attention was next given to the 2017-2018 school budget summary as of 10-10-17 with an additional line item breakdown report provided and reviewed. Noted change is that one full time new hire was approved by the school board last month. Now school board seeks P.C. to approve hiring of Elena Memmos as a 2nd grade teacher to replace Katerina Koutsouris. **Motion:** made by D Houpis/2nd E Kiriazopoulos to approve the hiring of Elena Memmos **Vote: 10-0-1**

Correspondence:

1) Announcement from Annunciation Cathedral that it will be celebrating its 125th anniversary on 12-2-17 at the Drake Hotel-requesting sponsorship support for its Ad Book. **Motion:** made by W Bozikis/ 2nd D Loomos to send donation of \$125.00 for Ad Book **Vote: 9-2-0**

2) Announcement from St. Basil GOC holding its 90th Dinner Dance and looking for sponsorship support for Ad Book. **Motion** to donate \$150.00 made by A Rizos/2nd G Giolas **Vote: 10-1-0**

3) Thank you acknowledgement from NIKA House Ministry at U of I for our prior donation of \$1,000.

4) Save the date announcement from GA Rehabilitation Center of 15 year anniversary celebration on 11-18-17.

Treasurer's Report: Financial reports from 8-31-17 reviewed with certain line items reviewed and/or discussed. **Motion:** To accept 8-31-17 financial report made by A Rizos/2nd E Kiriazopoulos **Vote: 10-0-1**

Committee Reports:

a) 2018 Budget discussion: Mentioned that just with a standard 2% pay raise increase, the increase for Father George's pay in accordance to the Archdiocese recommendation for priest with like years of service and the increase of the Archdiocese Commitment the proposed budget will have to take into account an additional \$13,000.00 deficit right off the start. Thus when looking at the budget next meeting will need to concentrate on decreasing other line item expenses- consider : i.e. if the Food Fest line item should be increased in the revenue, consider e-mail usage in order to save on postage cost, etc.

Request to add a \$5000.00 budget line item for the Inreach Committee which was started this year. Discussion had as to cost effectiveness in switching to LED lighting. G Giolas advised that Com Ed provides a free assessment and volunteered to arrange for the utility to come and assess conversion to LED lights. Other consideration when discussing the upcoming budget: consider the remodeling of the bathrooms in Community Center---R. Kozlowski and D Houpis are investigating the changes needed and related costs in order to present something to P.C. in the imminent future. Previously discussed purchasing new insurance coverage with a different company but no contact was executed because determined that iconography coverage was insufficient. Discussion Sandy's hours were increased with pay accordingly last year and that needs to be discussed further as to any other monies provided.

b) Oktoberfest: It was noted that this first time event had gross receipts of @ \$17,000.00 minus expenses of @ 45,000.00 resulting in a loss of @ 28,000.00. It was noted that Father Dean sent out an e-mail to the committee members of the Oktoberfest applauding their efforts -the consensus was to continue with idea of having a Fall Fest fundraiser in a modified format . E Kiriazopoulos volunteered to chair the next Fall Fest.

c) Phase 3: The update is that awaiting to hear back for Pappas GC. Have initiated contract with some banks to discuss loan options-discussion with Gold Coast Bank. Awaiting for the GC to do a breakdown of project costs and also cost projections from vender. D Houpis passed out a handout (that he prepared) with suggestions for modifications to expansion plans.

d) 2017 Golf Outing: reported that net from event totaled \$16,000.00; there were 74 golfers; had @ 30 raffle items; the bar was donated. Save the date for 2018 -it will be the 3rd Thursday in September, 2018.

e) Stewardship update: to be continued to November's meeting.

f) 2018 Stewardship campaign: Vanco (on line payment plan) application is completed, have updated the website and should be able to utilize by the end of 2017; 2018 stewardship card is almost completed.

g) Men's Event: Wednesday 11-22-17 at Fountain Blue. All P.C. members will be given 10 tickets and asked to try to sell them if possible to increase attendance to this event. Will need to have a credit card machine available.

h) 2018 Dinner Dance: Will be held on 2-11-18 as a Sunday luncheon. A person of interest need to confirm that they will chair the event.

i) Building and Grounds: Caulking of outside windows half-way completed by George Rizos. T Karabatsos worked on getting a quote to re-stripe the parking lot; A Demeros obtained a price quote on refinishing doors. **Motion**: made by D Houpis /2nd W Bozikis to spend an amount not to exceed \$3,500.00 to refinish the Church's front and side doors. **Vote: unanimous 13-0-0**

Discussion of having the last classroom (# 7) tested for possible mold.

Motion: made by L Kostantellos/2nd E Kiriazopoulos to spend up to \$400.00 to do mold testing in classroom **Vote: 12-0-1**

For the Good of the Parish:

On 10-24-17 the Metropolis of Chicago Banquet will be held at the Concord in memory of late Metropolitan Iakovos- ticket \$100.00 .

General Assembly will be held on 10-22-17 or in the alternative 10-29-17 at which time a Election board and Audit Committee will be nominated and affirmed. A General Assembly for discussion on the proposed 2018 budget and approval will be held on 12-3-17 or in the alternative 12-10-17.

The next P.C. meeting (11-15-17) will include the 2018 budget discussion.

Comments made as to the 125th Pan Orthodox Celebration-observations made as to G.O. Bishop absence.

Save the date for 10-21-17 Synergy Symposium on "Searching the Scriptures."

Priest's Remarks: are we missing the Stewardship meaning-as stewards we are to take ownership of the Church -there is need to be more focused on a spiritual basis. Good opportunity for all the P.C. members to reflect what have we done as a P.C. individually and as a collective body-what else can we do.

Motion to adjourn by R Kozlowski/2nd A Rizos. Meeting adjourned at 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. 4) Com Ed LED lighting assessment. 5) Report on rehab of bathrooms.