

**HOLY TAXIARHAI and ST. HARALAMBOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES FOR MAY 15, 2019**

Commencement of Meeting: Began with prayers at 7:46pm led by Fr Dean.

Parish Council Members in Attendance: C Agalliu, N Andrews, W Bozikis, A Demeros, P Giannopoulos, G Giolas, G Houpis, K Ioannou, T Kanelos, E Kiriazopoulos, A Koutsikos, D Loomos, R Kozlowski, J Pierce, M Pontikes, A Rizos, T Sikoral

Absent: T Bournias, N Gianaris, T Karabatsos, L Konstantellos

President's Remarks: Thank you for Holy Week ushering and for all efforts

Minutes: Motion to approve corrected April 2019 Parish Council Meeting Minutes made by G Giolas / 2nd W Bozikis **Vote: 12-0-3 Pass**

Correspondence: Pan Hellenic Scholarship Foundation, Awards Ceremony & Gala to be held at the Hilton Chicago June 15th, 2019. **Motion** to donate \$250, W Bozikis/ 2nd A Demeros.

Motion to table motion until we read the rest of the requests for donations. T Kanelos/ 2nd W Bozikis **Pass Unanimously**

- 1) St George Schererville, IN 90th Anniversary.
- 2) USO \$250 to \$1000 or other donation amount
- 3) Wounded Warrior Project \$25 to \$40
- 4) Special Olympics of Illinois \$100 to \$150

Motion to Donate \$40 to Wounded Warriors: T Kanelos/ 2nd P Giannopoulos **Vote: 9-6-0 Pass**

Motion to Donate \$100 to St George in Schererville, IN 90th Anniversary in Oct 2019: N Andrews / 2nd A Rizos **Vote: 8-7-0 Pass**

Motion to take off table and to donate \$250 to Pan-Hellenic Scholarship Foundation T Kanelos / 2nd W Bozikis **Vote: 10-5-0 Pass**

Running total of donations year to date: **\$1090**

Financial Report: Review of March 2019 financials. Moved \$50,000 from operating funds to capital projects account from 2018 Food Festival. Operating account is approximately \$56,000 from this morning after payroll and after the \$50,000 transfer to Capital Projects account.

Holy Week totals provided in separate handout.

Motion to approve the March 2019 Financials T Sikoral / 2nd J Pierce **Vote: Pass Unanimously 15-0-0**

Committee Reports

Food Festival: Walking the grounds to see what will fit and what needs to be modified. Main tents will be the same. The locations for the kids corner and carnival vendors, trash placements etc is up for discussion. Raffle tickets are ordered and hopefully will arrive sometime this week. Last month we discussed about having advertising. The Niles Chambers of Commerce will allow us to send fliers to members to allow for purchase of advertising to put around the fence of the festival grounds. We have to finalize the amount of advertisements and the prices. Food Festival meeting is coming up on May 28th.

Phase III Communication A Phase III Communications letter going out now. Letter drafted by Perry and reviewed by few people on the committee. It's informing people and getting them up to speed. Going forward, communication will be less verbal and more pictures. Email blasts, letters in the mail, and link on the website with weekly reports and pictures posted on the website.

Water retention is in, next move is working on the foundation and start on north end and work the way towards the church. General Contract has been signed for the construction of an occupiable building with some finishings. (not complete).

Closed on the line of credit for the construction loan, which was a process. There were a lot of things that were done over the history of the parish with regards to land properties, land trust, paper work with new land. The legal name of the church was incorrect but they are in the process of correcting (legal stumbling blocks). We never received a release of the bonds for the purchase of the land, never legally released by the bank even though it was paid back. But everything worked out and closing completed. The funding is there if we need it. We have to use \$2 million of our own first before using bank loan (\$1 million loan). (Perry Giannopoulos, Angelo Demeros, Richard Kozlowski, Tom Kanelos, Mike Pontikes, Steffan Aliferakis, Ted Karabatsos on the Phase III Committee).

Question to the Parish Council: What is the dollar amount for a change not requiring authorization of Parish Council? Discussion: anything up to \$10,000 that needs to be dealt with, the Phase III Committee can independently make the decision. Anything in excess to be brought to Parish Council. We have to raise money to pay for any excess amount, cannot go to the loan. HVAC guys are going to give us a credit \$20,000, pending.

Motion: that the Building Committee has ability to approve change orders up to \$10,000. Greater amount, up to \$50,000, needs approval of Parish Council. T Kanelos / 2nd J Pierce
Vote Pass Unanimous.

Fund-raising: Discussion about having bonds but there were considerable fees.

Stewardship: 2018 through Mid May \$286,901, pledged by 451 families with \$650.59/family. This year 2019, \$293,622 pledged by 448 families, \$655.40/family.

Bright Friday: Cleared \$920. Expenses were food, music, entertainment (children's Balloon Twister)

Outreach: Decided to move forward and do Thanksgiving Dinner again.

Buildings & Grounds: Ted called for HVAC estimates, first was \$48,000. Waiting for 2 more quotes. Com Ed rebate due to efficiency.

Report of some leakage in the church, repair the plaster. The men's bathroom issue. Next Parish Council meeting to vote on a HVAC for installation before fall. AC is still working.

For the Good of Parish:

Copier lease is expiring. Initial lease was 60 months. \$453/month currently. Getting additional quotes.

Insurance coverage, information still pending. Cyber coverage, prices range from \$1600 annually for \$500,000 coverage to \$2300-2500 annually for \$1,000,000 coverage. Umbrella policy, does it cover cyber infiltration? Question as to what data do we have that is liable? Wait until insurance broker gives us the information.

Memorial Day Picnic: John's Park secured. Monday May 27th. Parish Council organizes and provides Hamburgers and Hotdogs.

2019 Metropolis Clergy Laity 9/25 to 9/29. We have to choose representatives; president and priest do not have to be elected. Choosing delegates for clergy laity which consist of: the priest, president, and two more representatives. T Kanelos, and T Sikoral also interested.

Motion to elect T Sikoral and T Kanelos to be delegates for the clergy laity assembly Sept. 25-29th, 2019 in Minneapolis, MN. P Giannopoulos / 2nd N Andrews **Vote: 15-1-0 Pass**

ONE-YEAR PLAN

Faith Cultivation Committee Report: We decided on three things that we thought would be realistic to implement. 1) Encouraging people to read the Bible. Identified an app that is free, download the bible. Also has audio version. 2) To have multiple spiritual meeting groups to meet in small groups for bible study and other religious topics. Smaller groups allow for people to grow comfortable with each other. 3) Growing in Orthodoxy app out there is \$0.99 by the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. Gives the bible readings to read in a year and feast days. Looking to create a signup sheet to send out by June 15th and starting the groups by August 1st. Whoever is presiding should be connected to one of the priests for oversight.

Parish Council Retreat: Looking at dates at the end of October 11th & 12th but also Columbus Day Weekend. Tom will try to email more dates in the next few days. Please try to prioritize the weekend.

Priest's Remarks: Last Saturday a new Archbishop was elected. Letter from the new Archbishop read outloud. Enthronement to take place 6/22/19 in New York. Fr Dean is going to Boston for Hellenic College Board of Trustees meeting. Holy Week was good. Focus on the Holy Altar; not to be overruled by the business aspects. Saving \$1600 to \$1700 per month now that health insurance is through Medicare, went into effect on March 1st.

Motion to adjourn: G Giolas / 2nd T Sikoral **Vote: Pass Unanimously.** Closing prayers led by Father Dean at 9:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Krystal Ioannou, Recording Secretary

Open Items

- 1) HVAC quotes (2 more needed); to vote on in June meeting
- 2) Insurance policy, what cyber information do we have and is considered liable
- 3) Photocopier quotes