

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
Parish Council Meeting
December 20, 2017

Opening Prayer: Rob Shand opened the meeting with a prayer.

Call to Order by President Mary Winstead at 7:00PM.

Members Present: Joanna Biliouris, John Demos, Leslie Dombalis, Steve Flaherty, Maria Hicks, Jason Kekas, David Kouba, Sydney Langford, Bob Lyford, Harry Nicholas, Jim Riley, Mary Wehbie, Mary Winstead.

Guests: Jim Klemes, Leon Kythas.

Members Absent: Pavlos Pavlidis, Costa Panagos, and new member Steve Ryan. Fr. Paul was absent due to illness.

Reading of the Minutes: Mary Wehbie

Minutes sent electronically in advance of the meeting. Motion to approve by Steve Flaherty. Second Harry Nicholas. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Bob Lyford.

Bob presented Balance sheet and P/L Statement for November. The numbers are significantly improved. Stewardship income was \$34,000. At this time we are ahead of budgeted number. All expenses are on target except we are behind in ministries. GOYA uses money allocated in December. St. John the Merciful has turned in request for \$2800 line item.

Bob reports that \$20,550 from Clergy Laity restricted fund, \$182,000 from Paragon special events account and \$28,000 from Paragon property and maintenance funds will be transferred to the Paragon Prop. & Facility Maintenance account. A fixed asset account for new kitchen project has been set up and all expenditures for the kitchen renovation will be posted to this account.

Bob reviewed P/L Budget report. He notes stewardship YTD is \$383,000. For comparison, last year stewardship income at this date was \$335,000. He expects positive collections during the month of December and notes that there are 5 Sundays for collections. Expenses are on budget. He cautiously reports that we may anticipate a surplus of approximately \$15,000, driven by the \$30,000 donation. PC has the option to defer some of the money to 2018. The \$30,000 donation was given with intent to use as needed. If positive trend continues, money could go to deferral account for use in 2018.

Bob notes that all donation payments have been made from for festival donations: Habitat for Humanity, Rubicon, and Homes for Our Troops the from Paragon Festival/Special events account. Motion to accept Treasurer's Report by Steve Flaherty. Second Joanna Biliouris. Motion carried.

As an update to stewardship John Demos reported on stewardship kickoff. Over 50 people have already turned in their stewardship pledge. He thanked JP Edwards and David Kouba for updating and revising the stewardship pledge form. There has been much positive feedback with a request to increase print size and to add preschool and ambassadors to list of ministries. The stewardship committee is targeting January 28th as a day when each parish ministry presents its focus in the hall to present opportunities for time and talent. He will have a bulletin update for stewardship in February.

Kitchen renovation: Mary Winstead

Mary communicated an update from Chris Pappas. Asbestos remediation is completed. An issue arose regarding plan to redo the plumbing lines. There are a group of trees in close proximity to the course of the new lines. The city of Raleigh, in consult with an arborist, indicated that there will be damage to the trees and assessed a fee of \$6000. Jason Kekas understood that the \$6000 is a fine if root system is damaged. Chris Pappas clarified that the \$6000 fee is for the privilege to dig with the assumption that the trees root system will be damaged. There is no opportunity for a waiver. Question was asked about whether the encroachment is from the grease trap or the sewer lines. Chris indicated that it is from the sewer lines. Chris Pappas offered an alternative recommendation to avoid the \$6000 fee. He notes that the 350-gallon grease trap should function without problems if maintained properly—twice per year. The project could be done with the bigger grease trap and the same plumbing lines. The project could be done so that if needed the lines could be changed at a later date on a smaller scale project. Discussion followed with various pros and cons discussed.

Motion by Steve Flaherty to continue with current proposed plan to create the alternate plumbing route at additional cost of \$6000. Money is allocated within the contingency of the current proposal. Second Harry Nicholas. Motion carried.

Rental house update: Leon Kythas

Renovation of the sunroom floor is complete at a cost of \$580 and is permanent. The laminate floors are very nice and are more durable than carpet. Smoke detectors have been purchased but not installed to date. One drawer in the kitchen will be repaired. The house will be power washed. Someone disposed of old mattresses on our property. The cost to remove was \$96. Rental company should have contacted us to remove as we could have avoided the cost. Several interested parties visited the property. Ted Caporal also made repairs approved in the last meeting. Mary Winstead thanked Leon thanked his work on the rental property.

Fr. Paul Comments: Fr. Paul Christy expressed his regrets for missing the meeting due to illness. He communicated to PC that he thanked them for hard work and good will in the year past.

Presidents Comments: Mary Winstead

Mary received a thank you note from Pavlos Pavlidis and his family for the flowers at 40-day memorial for his mother. She also received one from St. John the Merciful for our donation. They have been in existence for 9 years and they have never asked for money, but appreciate generosity.

2018 PC meeting schedule distributed.

Mary queried the PC as to whether a physical calendar placed in the office would be helpful to help with facility organization. Discussion followed with decision to have a one-month calendar hung in the wall in the office.

Malfunctions problems with the copier continue. The election mailing had to be copied at Kinkos. We were credited a greater amount than the Kinko cost. Mary Winstead continues discussions with Xerox.

Old Business:

Maria Hicks will send out an Ambassador's schedule. Three individuals left the rotation, two being Jim Klemes and Leon Kythas to serve on PC. Harry Nicholos and Joanna Biliouris will join the ambassadors.

New Business:

Jason Kekas reports that Habitat for Humanity kick off for Orthodox Build is January 13. Our first day begins at 7:15AM at Westinghouse Blvd. The goal is to finish walls. Other dates will be February 10, March 3 and March 17th. He would love to have lunch provided by Philoptochos.

Christmas Gifts: David Kouba made a motion to give \$500 to Father Paul, Rob Shand, Dwight Harris, and Deacon Gavrillo. Second Leslie Dombalis. Motion carried.

Harry Nicholos and Joanna Biliouris thanked PC for fellowship, love, friendship and support. Mary thanked them for the unique talent and gifts each brought to PC.

A gentleman passed out at Mrs. Vallas' funeral. Mary read a letter from family thanking our community for assistance provided.

Jim Riley inquired whether the Christmas pageant video can be put on you tube. PC expressed concern to do so since it involves images of children. Betsy Higgins has video release forms, which would need to be signed for any individual who appears in the video.

There was miscommunication for the Christmas pageant between the Sunday school and Greek school, with parents and students being upset. There is much opportunity for growth in communication. PC will help on organization.

Mary Wehbie thanked the parish for its support and assistance for Philoptochos Bake Sale. The festival donated many items to defray cost and the community purchased pastries and raffle tickets and came out to enjoy a dinner, many inviting neighbors and friends. All proceeds benefit those in need.

Maria Hicks will bring liaison's list and make dates for reports to the next meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Mary Wehbie at 8:15PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Wehbie