

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church  
Parish Council Meeting  
April 17, 2018

**Opening Prayer:** Father Paul Christy opened the meeting with a prayer.

**Call to Order:** President Mary Winstead called the meeting to order at 7:05PM.

**Members Present:** John Demos, Leslie Dombalis, Steve Flaherty, Jim Klemes, Leon Kythas, Bob Lyford, Jim Riley, Steve Ryan, Mary Wehbie, Mary Winstead.

**Member Absent:** Maria Hicks, Jason Kekas David Kouba, Sydney Langford, Costa Panagos.

**Minutes:** Mary Wehbie

Minutes sent electronically in advance of the meeting. Motion to accept the minutes by John Demos.  
Seconded by Leslie Dombalis.

**Treasurer's Report:** Bob Lyford

Bob reviewed the balance sheet as of March 21, 2018. He notes that money from Paragon CDAR account was transferred to Capital Money Market fund. Kitchen Addition 2018 remains the same, but payments for kitchen project will be reflected in April statement. He reviewed the P/L statement. He notes stewardship income is about the same as in 2017. Increase in March statement reflects \$15,000 carried over from 2017. Cleaning supply expense is over budget. Bob notes that a vacuum cleaner was purchased for \$500. This will be switched property and maintenance. Dishwasher supplies were also allocated to this line item and will be switched to the kitchen fund. Computer and Internet expenses are nearly at budget. Parish software and 3-year Quick Books were purchased at the beginning of the year Bob notes that PC has the ability to adjust the budget by 1- 1 ½ %. It is known that GOYA is under budgeted. Bob reports that we can adjust the line item as requested at last PC meeting if we wish. Mary Wehbie notes that an alternate was provided to GOYA leadership to raise the money and they did not follow through. Mary Winstead would like to table until a later date. Them month of March shows a \$10,000 loss, but year to date profit is \$28,000.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report by Jim Klemes. Second by Jim Riley. Motion carried.

**Recycling/Composting:** Rob Coffin and Eula Apostolopoulos

Rob presented a short news clip entitled "It Takes Two". He discussed recycling and what our community can do, especially with plastic products. Rob brought signs from Waste Management that lists what products are recyclable. He recommends that they are placed strategically in the hall to educate our community as to what is recyclable and to encourage recycling. CCCM would like to work with others to improve adherence. An article in N/O discussed the situation whereby China is no longer taking recyclables from America. This has resulted in great reduction in what companies can receive on the market. Local governments have to pay to receive materials. Recycling will be more successful if individuals find out what is accepted and what is not accepted by recycling companies. Leave out items that would clog the recycling lines such as garden hoses and Christmas lights. Taylor what you discard. He recommends placing recycling receptacles in the hall with a hole so that only plastic or aluminum cans will fit. Mary inquired as to the cost of the bins and who collects them. Waste Management collects them and Rob will explore the cost. Discussion followed. Leslie asked if we are only to recycle cans. Eula reports that we can only recycle water bottles, certain papers, and metal cans, but no Styrofoam cups. She would like to see the church purchase washable coffee cups now that we have a dishwasher. Eula reported that there is tremendous glut of plastic waste that winds up in the water and fish are affected. Polyester has bits of plastic in it and when washed also ends up in the water, affecting marine life. Rob again recommends placing signage at recycling stations and in the kitchen. Ideally we would use dishes and wash in the dishwasher.

Eula thanks PC for allowing the CCCM to have a garden. CCCM having Artoclasia this Sunday for Earth Day. She is considering having everyone in the community come out and place a plant in the new garden. Leslie will place an announcement in the bulletin.

**Deposits:** Amalia Kythas

Amalia reports that she made 8 different deposits for Holy Week and that all were correct. She reviewed Sunday Collections worksheets and cited some areas where errors most often occur. Cash in envelopes has to be accounted separately. The envelope with the name of donor and amount of cash inside should be recorded and given to Amalia so that money will be properly credited. Use "other" line for any special deposits, such as GOYA, special tray. It is ok to make separate deposit. Her observation is that the larger the deposit the

greater the likelihood for error. At Christmas there were 120 checks. 3 were not copied. It took 6 weeks to resolve. For an unknown reason, Amalia cannot see all of the checks online. If she has to call the bank there is a service charge. For special items such as Christmas cards, one person could keep the money and deposit it at one time.

Parish soft is an antiquated system. Amalia has to go through multiple screens to record donations and errors can occur. She requests that the checks are batched before copying. Amalia reviewed deposit from January 9<sup>th</sup> and made recommendations for clarity and accuracy.

Quarterly stewardship letters sent out include only stewardship donations. Amalia asked if this was sufficient as questions often came up about other donations made such as memorials or special collections. She can include additional information on the form without extra work. She just has to click to indicate what information should go on the letter. PC prefers the additional information by consensus.

Jim Klemes notes that when you give to the Archdiocese or DRC, get a statement that says no goods or services were provided. This is on the end of year statement and Amalia will add to the quarterly statements as well.

### **Pascha Picnic Wrap up: Mary Winstead**

Mary reports that there was a good turnout for the picnic. Many people brought food for their family and other brought to share as a potluck. It was wonderful fellowship.

John Demos reminded PC that it our Anastasia Service as well. He reports that one of the most difficult times as PC member is telling members that the sanctuary is full. Most everyone is extremely gracious and follows directive of PC. For those who refuse to follow directions he recommends just letting it go and do not let this deter your own participation in the joy of the day.

Mary Winstead reports that we hired two policemen and she recently found out that it may be cheaper to close the road for the procession. She will look into this for next year.

### **Kitchen Renovation: Mary Wehbie**

Mary reports that the kitchen renovation is complete and under budget including the \$10,000 donation. All inspections have been passed. George Kapetanakis and Penny Gallins have spent days, not hours, washing, throwing away and reorganizing the kitchen. It is likely that some items will be relocated again after we begin to use the kitchen and see what works best. Mary assisted in some of the work and notes that our kitchen items and supplies are poorly kept and cared for. She recommends a kitchen committee to maintain cleanliness and order. She recommends that guidelines and procedures are written for ministries and groups who use the kitchen. She thought it would be helpful to clean the basement as well to improve storage capacity.

### **Festival Update: Mary Winstead for Jason Kekas**

A Kick off Luncheon for Volunteers is being planned either May 20 or 27. We have a preliminary cooking schedule. It will be finalized and publicized shortly. George Pappas is handling.

### **Father Paul Christy Comments**

Father Paul thanked PC for their assistance and commitment during Holy Week.

Baptisms have been going well with current water process in place.

AC unit is working. He thanks Evan Bundros for the generous donation.

Jim Allen reached out to meet with Father about plans for Field of Dream. Meeting will be held Friday.

Durham Bulls Committee meeting met and plans are moving forward for Greek Night on July 28.

He would like to keep Stewardship on track and requested a sermon from John Demos, stewardship chair.

### **Presidents Comments: Mary Winstead**

Mary thanks PC for its work during Holy Week. She acknowledges that it takes a lot out of PC. She read a letter from Alex, a parishioner thanking PC and medical members for assistance to his fiancé.

Holy Trinity made a formal offer to purchase the Vallas property. We are waiting for a response or counter offer. A response was expected yesterday.

Clergy Laity is July 1-5 in Boston. Mary Winstead will attend. Please contact Mary Winstead or Father Paul if you are interested in attending.

The candles that we purchased with red plastic lining have warped on several occasions. The company believes this is due to the wick not being straight. They will replace the order. Since they are in glass, they do not pose a fire threat.

Habitat for Humanity Orthodox Build: Mary received emails from Rick Beech regarding the Orthodox Habitat Home. 2 additional work dates are posted for 4/21 and 4/28. Matt and Angelina Johnson have

spearheaded. An announcement will be placed in the bulletin. They plan to have closing dedication between May 2 and 19<sup>th</sup>.

Antonios Hondroulis Custody Case:

Motion to move to executive session by John Demos. Seconded by Jim Klemes. Motion carried.

Motion to end executive session by John Demos. Seconded by Jim Klemes. Motion carried.

**Old Business:**

Washer/dryer. With the kitchen project completed, Chris Pappas would like to place the washer and dryer. Jim Klemes is concerned about the location of the washing machine in the utility room where the icemaker is placed. The room is overcrowded already and there is risk placing more electrical equipment in the room. Discussion followed about alternate locations. If an alternate location cannot be found, the washer and dryer can be donated.

**New Business:**

American Institute of Cancer Research Event: Once a year, ProShred owner Jim Klemes hosts a fundraiser on behalf of American Institute of Cancer Research. Participants can bring items to be shredded to the church, where he will have a truck and personnel to collect. Minimum donation is \$10.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by John Demos at 8:30PM.

**Closing Prayer:** Father Paul Christy closed with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Wehbie  
PC Secretary