

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
Parish Council Minutes
Wednesday, June 13, 2012

Call to Order: President Mark Langford called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Father Michael Marcantoni led us in prayer and said that as Parish Council we are taking care of God Our Father's house, in other words, our family's house, our true home.

Members Present: Toula Capetanos, John Demos, Jimmy Ellison, John Fakiris, David Ford, Fotis Fotiu, Penny Gallins, Eve Kantner, Jim Klemes, Mark Langford, Don McEnteer, Helen Perros.

Members Absent: Evan Bundros, George Pappas, Leon Kythas.

Reading of the Minutes: A motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting was made by David Ford and seconded by Don McEnteer. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Don McEnteer:

- Total revenues for May fell to \$27,449, compared to \$55,418 for April and the last 5 years' May avg. of \$43,723. Budgeted monthly revenue: \$42K. Stewardship was \$25K, \$9K below budget. Operating expenses were \$40,091. \$42K is the monthly avg. Net loss was (\$12,642).
- YTD revenue at \$206,578 was unfavorable to budget by \$3K but favorable to 2011 by \$14K.
- YTD expenses at \$218,009 were unfavorable to budget by \$8K (due to candles & flowers, mulching, Archdiocese support, Easter picnic) and to 2011 by \$77K (because of irregular priests' salaries till June that year).
- Net income is unfavorable to budget by \$11K and to 2011 by over \$40K (see salaries above).
- Operating Checking Acct. at \$66,906 is lagging behind 2011 but up by 2K from prior month (sales tax reimbursement).
- Capital Campaign Acct. has \$1,561,940 (up \$4K from April); Fest. Acct. has \$68,223; Prop. & Fac. Maint. Fund has \$12,585; Memorial Fund has \$37,395.

There was discussion about the low May revenues, Archdiocese support, Festival rent, and possible purchase of a pizza oven. John Demos made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Fotis Fotiu. Motion carried.

Parish Business:

a. Stewardship: John Demos highlighted the points made at the General Assembly on Sunday. As of May 31, 2012, we have 250 pledging families and \$329,299 pledged. Compare this to all of 2011, when we had a total of 272 pledges and \$314,653 pledged. In 2008, our best year to date, we received pledges totaling \$332,963. We expect to go beyond the \$3.7K needed to surpass that and to make 2012 the new stewardship standard.

b. Capital Campaign: Penny Gallins reiterated the point made in the General Assembly that 25% of our parishioners have pledged 50% of our Capital Campaign target of \$6m. The remaining 75% will be contacted so we can reach our goal. If any PC member has

not yet made a pledge, please do so. The Celebration Committee is growing and working on our 75th Anniversary. The parish is actually 88 years old: services go back to 1924. Our 75th Anniversary will celebrate the construction of our first church building in 1937. As Fr. Paul has said, on Saturday, October 20, we will have a celebration (he's secured Meg Economy's help) and on October 21 we will have Commitment Sunday, when we will all either renew or make our Capital Campaign pledge. Penny said that Fr. Paul has been working very hard on the Campaign but doesn't boast about it. Fr. Michael said Father has been tireless in his efforts.

d. Solicitations: Mark said a parishioner has enquired whether our parish should be asked to provide financial assistance for a parishioner with a medical issue in another parish in our Metropolis. A discussion followed. The Parish Council consensus was that our parish should not seek such assistance from our parishioners and that this kind of solicitation should not appear in the Bulletin or Listserv. Also, Parish Council members should let our priests know about needy cases among our own parishioners.

e. A Night in Athens: Fotis Fotiu thanked everyone who participated and advertized. Three companies really helped a lot: All My Sons, Carolina Ale, and ProShred. Fotis suggested Fr. Paul and Mark join him in thanking them. We made \$5,395 net. 10% will go to The American Cancer Society (\$540), this having Parish Council consensus. Toulia said she wants to do a Dessert & Dance next year. Fotis gave his permission but said Katina Rogers may still be thinking about another Dinner-Dance.

f. Audit Report Follow Up: Don McEnteer said the Audit Committee wants to bring 2 items to the Parish Council's attention: (1) It recommends that Scholarship funds no longer be handled through Holy Trinity's accounts but have their own. A discussion followed. It was agreed that Mark should talk to both Fr. Pauls about the Fr. Paul Kaplanis Seminarian Scholarship. Penny Gallins made a motion, seconded by David Ford, that we accept the Audit Committee's recommendation: "Presently, scholarship disbursements are processed through the church's general operating account. We suggest that the parties that sponsor each scholarship set up a separate account for the scholarship, distinct from church accounts, and that all disbursed funds be made by the trustees of that scholarship endowment." Motion carried. (2) The Audit Committee wants to remind the PC to make sure deposits on the Sunday Collections sheet balance and reconcile with the bank deposit slip. Also, print your name under the two required signatures. Mark and Don have revised this Sunday Collections sheet, listing all the proper procedures and requirements on it. Don went over each of these and said that we should take care to follow these instructions.

g. Clergy-Laity Conference: Mark said that Fr. Paul, Presbyter Mary and he are attending the Clergy-Laity in Phoenix. They will leave Sunday, July 1, and return Thursday. Fr. Michael said Presbyter Katherine's due date is July 14.

h. Festival Cooking Schedule: Mark thanked all who have helped so far and said that nut rolls will be made on Monday morning.

Comments: Fr. Michael said GOYA had a really good turnout at the Shelter. Some adults, such as Kathy Knezevic, Toulia Capetanos and John Compos, stayed. The kitchen was full of kids, a great thing for the staff and people in the Shelter. YAM is going strong. They have 2 get-togethers a month: one is a social event; the other is a topic discussion. They discuss difficult topics and the sessions are well attended. We are planning an OCF trip next year. We have to get the approval of both the OCF head office and His Eminence. It will be a Spring Break

event. Fr. Michael said the church bell from the original church was found in the janitor's closet. We may want to discuss whether to make it part of the new edifice or keep it as a memorial artifact. It needs a new ringer. This would make it very symbolic of our community's blend of old and new. Father showed the bell to the PC. It was suggested that we ring it on Commitment Sunday with each Capital Campaign pledge.

Old Business:

- a. Toula wondered what was the purpose of the small kit with sand and water that was recently found in the Altar. Fr. Michael ruled out a funeral use because for that oil and sand are necessary. Penny suggested a groundbreaking use.

New Business:

- a. Mark said Meg Economy, who was nominated for the Election Committee in the General Assembly, is not going to be here for the Election so we need a replacement. Tamara has suggested Penny Bradley or Ioanna Schmidt. Mark thinks both would be good and will see if either of them would be willing to serve.
- b. Mark said that any PC member who has not taken the oath of office should see Fr. Paul.
- c. Mark said that a motion was passed in the General Assembly to set up a committee to establish what repairs and maintenance work needs to be done. Since then, he's been thinking about all the renovations and repairs we've done in last 4 years and wonders how much we've spent. Penny said that a repair and maintenance list with estimated costs was drawn up in 2009. Not all the projects were carried out: e.g. renovating the pews was too costly (at least \$20,000) and would necessitate taking the pews outside. There was consensus that Jimmy Ellison and Jim Klemes should draw up a new list, using the 2009 list where appropriate. Jimmy Ellison suggested that some tasks, such as power-washing the exterior, could be done by volunteers to reduce costs.
- d. Toula asked about 1937 French Dr. Don said Lisa Holmes with HRW Realty has been selected as our Property Manager. She will try to rent it for \$1,250-\$1,400 a month and will charge a 7% mgt. fee. We are going to keep checking on the place and are not allowing pets.
- e. Toula said PC on duty should remember to turn off the coffee machine, and also straighten up the sanctuary. Mark said some ambassadors don't clean the coffee machine after serving coffee. Toula said we have to check after them.
- f. David Ford suggested the General Assembly be held before Sunday School ends for the year to ensure better attendance. Penny said the By Laws say it should be held in June.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Jim Klemes, seconded by Don McEnteer.

Closing prayer: Father Michael led us in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen Perros