

## Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

### Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday, August 13, 2013

**Call to Order:** President Mark Langford called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Fr. Paul led us in Prayer.

**Members Present:** Fr. Paul Christy, John Fakiris, Foti Fotiou, Penny Gallins, George Kapetanakis, Mark Langford, Evan Bundros, Meg Economy, David Ford, Helen Perros, Dr. Connie Kledaras and Greg Delage.

**Members Absent:** Dr. Risa Poniros, Toula Capetanos, Frances Mathes, and Nik Kamilaris.

**French Drive – street widening issue,** addressed by special guests Chuck Paterno and Jeff Brody with French Drive LLC. They presented their overall plan for development (traffic calming designs, stop sign), and on-going negotiations with the City of Raleigh regarding Litchfield Downs Lane proposed footprint abutting Holy Trinity property. Fairly succinct presentation, with a few questions. GK asked for their pts of contact with the city. Realistically we are not likely to have any control of what the city will do. Left us with a draft resolution (sample) we could use if interested.

**Additional Sunday School classroom(s) in church basement:** Special guest Chris Pappas spoke to the need for additional Sunday School classrooms. Our facilities don't meet our current needs, and classrooms are severely overcrowded. Originally the basement space was earmarked for future classroom space. He presented a working drawing for consideration. Some questions followed. Permitting would add 3-4 weeks. John questioned adding addl. lighting in the stairwell. Chris would provide more specific pricing upon direction from the Parish Council.

Chris also addressed the need for updating the church's **AV Equipment**, sharing with us suggestions for modernizing the worship experience using A/V equipment. The majority of our sacraments take place facing the altar. Presented the concept of using HD projection screens in the sanctuary to expand visibility. We will need to do something before next Pascha. Suggested we could charge for wedding/baptism videos to help offset initial \$40,000/50,000 cost.

**Approval of the Minutes:** A motion to approve the emailed PC meeting minutes for both July 10<sup>th</sup> and July 24<sup>th</sup> was made by Helen, seconded by George. All approved, motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** David reported on attached financials. It looks like the Tooze estate will finalize in the fall. Now have 283 pledges of appx. \$356,000. in stewardship. Some discussion followed, a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Meg, and seconded by Connie. All approved, motion carried.

#### **Parish Business:**

**a. Planning (fundraisers, etc.) Ministry Heads:** Penny spoke in Nik's absence, to the need for managing scheduling for fundraisers. He had approached all ministry heads to submit calendars for posting, so that the community isn't constantly hit with fundraisers. Requested all PC members speak with ministry heads to coordinate this effort. It will be posted in the bulletin as well.

**b. Electrical Work:** George detailed the need for bringing wiring up to code in the building. Jim Klemes is working with Stoner Electric to resolve this issue, which might require some power outage for our facilities. Estimated costs are around \$7,000., but this work is urgent. George made a motion to allow up to \$10,000. to correct the electrical issues. Seconded by David. John questioned if we might need to perform an electrical audit at this time, and we request that Jim continue to manage this. This would come from the Facilities account. All approved, motion carried.

**c. French Drive discussion:** Mark restated his understanding of the situation. We discussed having a parish representative to the city on this issue. Penny will ask Chris Pappas to represent us with the city, to research where we stand on this issue.

**d. Adding classroom/AV equipment:** Discussion followed on the possibilities. Fr. Paul expressed his concern with spending money on refurbishing the space when we so urgently need to move forward with our

new sanctuary. A motion was made to set aside up to \$10,000. for expanding classroom space in the basement, contingent upon input from Betsy Higgins and Fr. Paul for best use of the space. Seconded by George. Would come from Facilities fund. Some discussion on pews and chairs. All in favor, motion carried.

We discussed the AV equipment proposal. Fr. Paul will inquire with the Bishop and other parishes for comparison value.

**e. Misc. Projects (copier room & UV film):** Penny told us that Kathy Kapetanakis could put in a curtain and rod to replace the broken folding doors for \$100. All agreed we should let Kathy do this. Also discussed having hallway glass tinted, and Evan said he would look into this option for us.

**f. Insurance Update:** Our insurer Michael LaSorsa suggested we record liturgical assets digitally, with captions, for appropriate insurance coverage.

**g. Accuracy of Deposits:** Some discussion on being more careful and better handling practices.

**Comments:** Fr. Paul shared information on upcoming Dormition of Theotokos service and the bus trip to the Monastery in Troy for the Panayiri. Smaller bus has been planned at \$100/person cost. Another service on Thursday, Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm for Russian Tzar exhibit, which will include some of our altar cloths and Fr. Paul's vestments. Star Elementary asked us about placing an ad in activity book for anti-bullying campaign, with some discussion about setting a precedent.

**Old Business:** George asked that we look into the chair situation in the hall, and suggested a committee to research some options. George, Foti and Meg will serve as this committee.

Foti will pursue installing light sensors when the electrical work is completed.

**New Business:** No new business was discussed.

**Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made by David.

**Closing Prayer:** Fr. Paul led us in prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 9:35pm.

Respectfully submitted, Meg Economy

**Next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 11, 2013**