

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church  
Parish Council Meeting  
August 15, 2018

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

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

**Members Present:** John Demos, Leslie Dombalis, Steve Flaherty, Maria Hicks, Jason Kekas, Jim Klemes, Leon Kythas, Sydney Langford, Bob Lyford, Jim Riley, Steve Ryan, Mary Wehbie, Mary Winstead.

**Member Absent:** David Kouba, Costa Panagos.

**Guest:** John Dombalis

**Reading of the Minutes:** Mary Wehbie

Minutes sent electronically in advance of the meeting. Correction made as requested by Mary Winstead. Motion to accept minutes as amended by Leslie Dombalis. Second by Steve Flaherty. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Bob Lyford

Bob reviewed the balance sheet, noting changes to accounts for the kitchen renovation. He reviewed the P/L Statement. Stewardship continues to trend favorable. It is up \$35,000 from last year. He reviewed monthly expenses, noting that all are on target to budget, with the exception of the various ministries who use money allocated to them at various times during the year. He notes that the Archdiocese allocation will be frozen until 2020. Year to date expenses are on track. The year to date net ordinary income is \$33,000. The financial operations of the church are in a good state. Motion to accept the treasurer's report by Steve Ryan. Second by Sydney Langford. Motion carried.

**GOYA:** John Dombalis

Mary Winstead introduced John Dombalis, coach of boy's basketball. Since Rob Shand was away, John was asked to speak on his behalf. John reports that GOYA would like to have a fundraiser to supplement the budget of GOYA. At this time there is not a specific plan or fundraiser in mind. Discussion followed. Recommendation was made to sell products, such as chocolate or to provide services for payment. Mary Winstead reviewed the current policy, which is to have ministries activities supported by the church budget. John Demos also discussed stewardship and its aim to fund ministries. John Dombalis noted that Rob is aware that expenses have increased for GOYA activities and they would like to supplement. Recommendation was made to focus on service-oriented activities and not the sale of products. Jim Klemes thanked John Dombalis for being involved with the youth in our parish family. After discussion the PC is in agreement that GOYA may host a fundraising event, but they should come back to PC with full details for final approval before initiating.

**Stewardship Update:** John Demos

John reports that stewardship is tracking fairly well through the historically lean summer months. He notes that historically September is very lean with Labor Day and Greek Festival as light weeks. There are currently 243 families pledged. \$261,000 has been given to date from pledged donors and \$51,000 from non-pledging donors. There are about 90 families who pledged last year but have not this year. This is comparable to historical figures. He is optimistic we will reach last year's numbers, but will have to execute to attain. Communication will be important moving forward. An updated list of stewards has been provided to Rob for the bulletin.

Jim Klemes asked what the total amount of pledged, but uncollected money is. John and Bob reported this amount to be approximately \$111,000 uncollected. John projects about a \$40,000 shortfall, but notes this is fairly typical for the time of year and he expects it to be made up.

**Ministry Update:** Steve Flaherty

Steve reported on the St. Anthony Group, a group for those older than 60 years of age. The group is organized by Toula Capetanos. Steve provided a list of past year activities and reports on several that are on the calendar for this year. The number of attendees varies based on activity, time, transportation, etc.

**Festival Update: Jason Kekas**

Jason reports that his wife will be will induced next week, eliminating possible conflict with the festival. He notes that the area where the kid's corner is will be used to improve flow for Gyro booth. Additional grills that are gas based have been purchased. New item to be introduced this year will be Lamburgers. Jason reports an individual with a company that sells trampolines approached him. He would like to have trampolines present for use by the children. His company supervises and manages the children. They have appropriate insurance and waivers. He would be located in the back corner. Discussion followed. PC prefers not to have this activity due to potential for injury and liability. Festival Chair Meeting will be Saturday 8/18/18 at 9AM. Billboards are up on New Bern Ave. and Atlantic Ave. The other two large ones will go up in another week. One will be placed on Hwy 440 near New Bern Ave. and another on Hwy 70 coming into town. WRAL will do digital targeted ads. Jason asked that all PC members actively participate in encouraging parishioners to sign up for volunteer hours. He notes that this is our last meeting before the festival and he needs all hands on deck. He thanked PC for the gift for he and his wife.

**Father Paul Christy Comments**

Father Paul thanked the PC for their efforts in implementing two successful community- building events: Greek Night at Durham Bulls game and Nametags Sunday. Jim Klemes inquired whether Bulls would like to have an area at the festival. Mary Winstead thanked Father Paul and Maria Hicks for their leaderships for the Bulls game and the PC for nametag Sunday.

Father invited everyone to attend the Fall Study Course from September to December . This year we will be studying the OT Book of Tobit.

**Presidents Comments: Mary Winstead**

Mary updated the PC on the following:

- Mary reported that Pastoral Assistant Rob Shand will be on vacation. He provided his itinerary and noted items that will need to be done in his absence.
- Mary notes there is an activity in the multipurpose room on 8/17 and it will need to be cleaned afterwards. Jason reports that Quartet singing group will not be in in need of our facilities on 8/24/18. There is a hall rental with the Flammia Baptism on 8/24. John Demos will be present to assist with clean up.
- Trey's responsibilities have been mapped out in the absence of Dwight.
- Beba asked that tables be set up for the 8/21 and 8/28 for Festival baking. PC captain has been assisting in making these arrangements.
- Nametag Sunday was phenomenal. Several new families linked with those of similar interests. She would like to repeat on another occasion. Discussion followed. Suggestion was made to coordinate Stewardship rollout and include ministries presentation.
- Mary reported that 2 insurance agents have been to the church to gather information and will offer quotes.
- Vallas property acquisition continues to move forward. We have signed a contract for the environmental survey with Terra Tech Engineers. They will perform a record search, assess ground water flow and complete a site survey. Two inspections will occur-one for the for home and one for the property. Brief discussion followed regarding renting the property and was tabled as premature at this time.
- Regarding repairs on the property from water damage, Terra Tech recommended physically cutting a hole in the wall to assess for moisture and damage.
- Coffee hour: Steve Flaherty suggested we model our coffee hour similar to the way St Necktarios hosts coffee hour. Each member brings something to share based on their last name. The bulletin is used to communicate which letters should bring items on a particular Sunday.
- Rob relies on Dwight to tell him when to restock. Restocking has not been done since Dwight left. Jim Klemes will create a form and circulate for review. PC Captain can complete.
- Joanna Biliouris spoke with the owner of Gussy's Greek Food Truck, a sponsor in the Greek festival ad book. He is interested in bringing his food truck after church on a Sunday. He will donate 20% to the church. Leon Kythas will follow up on this.
- Pew Restoration: Mary Winstead introduced Roxanne Serletis to Lee Newton on Nametag Sunday. They were able to discuss refurbishing the pews. Roxanne will discuss with Mary once she has decided.
- Memorial Service can be located in the red service book. As such it can be removed from the pews. It is noted that many items are missing and should be inventoried.

**Old Business:**

Approximately \$6000 has been donated to Wehbie Wehbie Fund to assist the Harris family. Approximately \$1000 was donated to assist victims of Greece wildfires. This is from one of the two weeks we will be collecting money for the wildfire victims.

Maria Hicks inquired whether there are plans to replace Presanctified Liturgy booklets. Father notes they can now be printed from online site. Mary Winstead stated that we replaced the main booklets last year. Mary Wehbie will work on this in the New Year.

General Assembly: Sunday November 18<sup>th</sup> will be date for next General Assembly. Parishioners should receive notice 14 days in advance.

**Motion to adjourn** by Jim Klemes at 8:20PM

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

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Wehbie  
PC Secretary