

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

Parish Council Meeting

January 17, 2018

Guest: Fr. Paul introduced Lee Newton, a parishioner whose business is in manufacturing ecclesiastical items. He has been in this business since 1969. Father Paul asked him about refurbishing the pews in our Sanctuary. He communicated a few different methodologies to proceed. The most extreme option would be to remove the pews for 3-4 weeks to do all repairs and complete all work. He would not recommend this for our purposes. He recommends rejuvenation of pews, which would include thorough cleaning with repair where necessary. The work can be done in phases so as not to disrupt services. Mary Winstead asked him to come in to evaluate and offer recommendations and pricing.

Opening Prayer: Father Paul Christy opened the meeting with a prayer at 12:30PM.

Election of Officers:

Mary Winstead nominated for President by Sydney Langford. Seconded by Steve Ryan.

Motion to close nominations by Steve Flaherty. Seconded by Jim Riley. Motion carried.

Maria Hicks nominated for Vice President by Mary Wehbie. Seconded by Leslie Dombalis.

Motion to close nominations by Steve Flaherty. Seconded by Leon Kythas. Motion carried.

Mary Wehbie nominated for Secretary by Steve Flaherty. Seconded by John Demos. Motion carried.

Bob Lyford nominated for Treasurer by John Demos. Seconded by Jim Riley. Motion carried.

Motion to close nominations by Steve Flaherty. Seconded by Jim Riley. Motion carried.

Bob Lyford appointed Leon Kythas to be Assistant Treasurer.

Call to Order: President Mary Winstead called the meeting to order.

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

Member Absent: David Kouba.

Reading of the Minutes: Mary Wehbie

December meeting minutes and special meeting minutes sent electronically in advance of the meeting. Mary Wehbie read the corrections to the December PC meeting minutes. Motion to accept December minutes as amended and special meeting minutes by Steve Flaherty. Seconded by John Demos. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Bob Lyford

Bob reviewed the balance sheet. He highlighted the following items.

- Paragon property and facility maintenance has \$315,000. Kitchen addition will be funded with money from this account.
- In a new line item, Fixed Assets, Kitchen Addition 2018, he notes \$4065 was spent. \$1500 for of this money was for permits and \$2500 for asbestos removal.
- Current year Stewardship/Other Fund is for money allocated to 2017, which has been paid in 2018.
- Next Year Stewardship contribution is money paid in 2017 that was directed to 2018 stewardship.

Bob next reviewed the P/L Statement.

- Total stewardship for 2017 was \$440,000. Candle and tray offerings combined are greater than budgeted.
- The net income for 2017 is \$30,000.

Bob requests direction from PC as to where a one-time stewardship donation that the PC was given discretion for use this should be allocated. Discussion followed. Options are to leave it in 2017 and it will become reserves, move it to 2018 stewardship or leave a portion in 2017 and a portion to 2018 stewardship.

Costa Panagos notes that a rather dire financial situation in October turned around. An opportunity is presented to note what went right. He thanked Fr. Paul and John Demos with the stewardship committee for their leadership. Sermon offered by Father was effective. The sermon was videotaped and put on you tube, viewed by over 100 individuals.

John Demos will present 2017 year end analysis in the bulletin. Questions were answered. \$380,000 of \$410,000 is pledged, a rate of 93%. John notes that stewardship increased, but special offerings, such as

Easter offerings and candles are lower. Of the 10 highest pledges 9 were from families of children in high school and younger. 10% of gifts are online, some using our website and some using bank drafts from their own banks.

Bob recommends splitting the amount and allocating \$15,000 to 2017 and \$15,000 to 2018. Once it is in stewardship, it is unrestricted and could be used as needed.

Motion made by Mary Wehbie to allocate half of the net income to 2017 stewardship and half to 2018 stewardship. Seconded by Sydney Langford. Motion carried.

- On the expense side, GOYA was over budget by approximately \$2800.00.

Discussion followed. PC requested information about expenses. John Demos reported on the basketball tournament in Norfolk. The event was beneficial in that in addition to sports it included fellowship, a dance, and Liturgy together. The GOYA budget paid for the entry fee. Each family paid for transportation and hotel expenses. Leslie Dombalis reported on Baptist Basketball League. The league is planning to increase to include another age group. GOYA budget pays the league entry fee. Approximately 35-40 members attended WYR. GOYA sold t-shirts, but there was little profit. Bob Lyford broke down expenses. PC has several questions regarding GOYA activities. Maria Hicks, GOYA liaison will meet with Rob Shand and report back to PC at February meeting.

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report by John Demos. Seconded by Leslie Dombalis. Motion carried.

Durham Bulls Night: Father Paul
Faith Inman will present at February meeting.

Ministry Liaisons: Maria Hicks
Maria Hicks passed out list of current ministries and PC liaisons. Updates were made. Every month ministry reports will be made at PC meetings. Schedule distributed.

Kitchen renovation: Mary Winstead.
Kitchen renovation is underway. Chris Pappas will be sending request for change orders. According to our bylaws the President and Secretary are required to sign legal documents. It is noted that bylaws generally allow for delegation of authority. We as PC can delegate the authorization for change orders as long as the orders are within the scope of the project. Mary will review bylaws and address next meeting. Kitchen committee is making cosmetic decisions. Construction committee, comprised of Speros Fleggas, Bert Michaud and Jeff Winstead, have a schedule to ensure that someone is onsite daily. Chris Pappas is either on site, or available by phone.

Rental house: Leon Kythas
Leon installed 3 smoke detectors. The house is up to code. Engineered laminate flooring is complete. We have a prospective tenant- a single mom with 3 children, one of whom is a special needs child. Lease will be 6 months or 12 months. The downstairs bathroom has cat odors and will be cleaned. The applicant is under review and that is going well. Amount from rent that is paid to the church is \$1390. Plan is to move in on February 1.

Father Paul Christy Comments: None at this time

Presidents Comments: Mary Winstead

Mary is honored to serve as president again. She learned much last year. Personally Mary has tried to incorporate some of the lessons of the sermons into her daily life. She thought about getting more people involved in our parish life. She asked PC to think about engagement and reaching out to others to become engaged- stewardship time and talent.

Jim Klemes and Leon Kythas have been on PC before. She noted some of the changes. One is the change in collection time. Another is that after money is collected, the standing rule is "do not leave unattended." Be sure to check the doors where coat racks and olive trees are to make sure they are locked. They have been left open on occasion.

Until a permanent process is in place for repairs, contact Chris Pappas.

Refrigeration: The alarm is constantly going off. Steve said it is a defective sensor in the cooler that is causing alarm coming off. Harry and Chris said that mode was changed and that is why alarm is going off. Mary Winstead will follow up. There is a foul smelling odor in the outside refrigerator. Dwight will look into it in the morning. Everything should be removed and the entire refrigerator bleached.

Second copying of checks for memorials is no longer needed. Mary asked that care be taken when money is counted, as accuracy is imperative. She encouraged PC to take their time, concentrate and be accurate.

At Vasilopita presentation, John Demos got the coin on behalf of the unchurched. John does not think that is an accident. He said that we all know many who are not coming often to church. Love and providing good example will encourage other to join is services and activities. He would like each member to make an effort to reach out to those who used to come. Introduce yourself to new members. Ministries Sunday is being planned at a coffee hour to present opportunities for individual to find peer groups and match those with similar interests. Welcome committee communicates to new members only if a form is completed.

Old Business:

Jason Kekas reported that Habitat thanked our community for building of walls for the Orthodox Home. Next building day is March 3, followed by March 17th. Jason would like GOYA to do March 3rd. Festival donation presentation will be next week to Habitat. Rich Beech will be here to receive the donation of \$16,000 and address the community.

New Business:

Mary Winstead is working with Rob to update keys and security codes.

Jim Klemes notes that the most successful PC on which he as served have set goals and objectives and work together to serve the community. He encourages thoughtful consideration regarding stewardship, festival, and allocation of money to church, community, or diocese.

Talent show is February 18th. Please participate.

Hope and Joy is having an event in the hall on February 3rd. There are safety concerns with the kitchen equipment in the hall. A suggestion made to create a physical barrier against the kitchen equipment for safety and have additional parents to supervise.

Coffee pot not fixed yet. Electrical issues need to be resolved.

Jason Kekas reported that David Price put a memory of Pota Vallas into congressional history. He is planning to come to church to make presentation.

Motion to adjourn by Jason Kekas at 1:50PM.

Closing Prayer by Father Paul Christy.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Wehbie