**SAINTS CONSTANTINE & HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

Palos Hills, IL

January 10, 2023

7:00 P.M.

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

**PRESENT: ABSENT:**

Fr. Nicholas Dahdal Demitri Andrikopoulos Leo Bezanis

Gus Kapsaskis Liz Christofylakis Tom Berchos

Andy Kladis Effie Panos Tony Vouris

Mark Dinos Jim Stavrou

Sue Kouchis George Lattas

Telly Visvardis Gerry Galatis

Mike Orrico Peter Kaftantzis

Elaine Simadis Angelo Fotopoulos

Janet Koliopoulos Andy Sampalis

I. Jim Stavrou, called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. with opening prayer led by Fr. Nicholas. The meeting commenced with 17 members present.

II. Mark Dinos made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 13, 2022 meeting. Angelo Fotopoulos seconded the motion. The motion passed.

III. Pastoral report delivered by Fr. Nicholas

1. We need to ensure we have a General Assembly soon.
2. Went to the Greek American nursing home with the kids from GOYA. Celebrated divine liturgy. Looking to do this sometime soon with the members of the Philoptochos.
3. Very important that the choir is present in all liturgies. If the choir cannot commit to this, we should consider hiring an additional chanter for liturgy services.
4. Blessed all the classrooms after the Christmas break. Fr. stated he would like to see improvements in the religious education being taught in the school. Working with Beth Lind.

IV. President’s report delivered by Jim Stavrou

1. Budget to be presented at the next PC meeting in February.
2. General Assembly will take place on March 5, 2023 immediately after church.
3. Jim stated the need for more PC participation during services.

V. Financial report delivered by Elaine Simadis

1. Payroll has been outsourced to Paychex
2. Bill pay has been outsourced to bill.com
3. Working to reconcile Realm
4. No year end statements being sent out as was voted many years ago by PC. Discussion arose around this subject – many stated we need to reconsider this and begin to sent out year end statements. Fr. Nicholas suggest doing statements quarterly or semi annually as a way to help people see where they stand with their annual personal commitments.
5. **MOTION:** George Lattas made a motion to send semi annual giving statements beginning in Q3 in 2023, July 15 and January 15. Sue Kouchis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
6. **MOTION:** Elaine Simadis made a motion to send 60% of recent bequest to church endowment and 40% to school endowment with our request to Calamos to place those funds into a liquid Money Market Account. George Lattas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Stewardship/Philanthropy report delivered by George Lattas

1. 561 stewards for year end 2022 w/ average give at $634 per steward.
2. George met with Fr. Nicholas to discuss best practices. Committed to a stewardship book in the narthex for new visitors and 3 back to back Sunds for Stewardship Sundays.
3. George currently working on putting together a stewardship/philanthropy committee.
4. Jim Stavrou added that we should look to do 1 philanthropy event per quarter.

VII: School Board report delivered by Liz Christofylakis

1. Currently at 180 students with a waiting list already in place for next year for grades PreK – 1st. Possibly 2 Kindergarten classes next year.
2. School board is discussing the possibility of a significant tuition increase for next year.
3. Launching a new website in the near future.

VIII: New Business

1. Maintenance – Peter Kaftantzis / Telly Visvardis
2. Gym floor maintenance will be done after June 9
3. All lighting in the lobby should be done within the next month. The Altar lights need to be upgraded to LED however most contractors will not go up there due to the limited workspace.
4. Will get bids for cleaning of school to see where our current provider stands in terms of pricing.
5. Will get job description posted for Handyman
6. The west end of the building, in gym area, had water leaks in recent weeks that need to be addressed. One of our parishioners repaired some of the leaks and provided us with a bid to fix remainder of issue to avoid issues going forward.
7. **MOTION:** Peter Kaftantzis made a motion to approve for work to be done by Four Elements Restoration to clean, prep, apply new roof cement and mini fabric over corners of skylights and HVAC units, apply new heat welded modified bitumen patches over gymnasium and above school classrooms where necessary. Total cost of repair is $4,650. Mark Dinos seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
8. Recently had 2 companies come out to give us bids to have the 2 priest offices remodeled. This includes making the 1st office ADA compliant and creating a new door of the office that Fr. Nicholas currently occupies to avoid having to enter through the conference room to access this office. The difference between both quotes was about $10k.
9. **MOTION:** Telly Visvardis made a motion to proceed with Sellas Construction Inc. to complete the necessary work in the priest offices. Scope of work includes remodel of bathroom, installing wider door frame, opening through masonry wall for new entrance into 2nd office and the installation of three 5-6 gallons electric hot water heaters and the removal of the 2 existing ones. Total bid amount is $9,300 with up to an additional $5,000 for materials. Sue Kouchis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
10. Clergy Laity – Mark Dinos
11. Virtual meeting held and was attended by Fr. Nicholas, Mark Dinos, George Lattas, and Effie Panos.
12. After the sale of Burton Place, the Metropolis netted $3 million which would has been earmarked to purchase a new Metropolis center.
13. The purpose of the meeting was to give the Metropolis council authority to proceed with the purchase when ready however after 5 hours and much discussion, the meeting was suspended in an open ended recess.

VIII: Adjournment:

Mark Dinos moved that the meeting be adjourned. Demitri Andrikopoulos seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 9:35 P.M.

Submitted by Gerry Galatis

January 31, 2023