

HOLY APOSTLES PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

October 17, 2024

Note: Steve Milak presided over the meeting as both Norm Pomrening and Jim Maragos were out of town.

Call to Order: Steve Milak called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Opening Prayer: Father George led us in the opening prayer.

Steve Milak recited the Mission Statement.

Approval of Minutes: Val Dranias moved to approve the September PC minutes, Patty Pappas seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Correspondence: Val Dranias reported that we received a thank you letter from Metropolitan Nathanael for our \$5000 donation to the Metropolis annual Vision Campaign. An invitation for a fundraiser for the Hellenic College/Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology on Nov, 14th. Nick Kirkeles moved that we purchase a table for HC/HC fundraiser for \$1250. Peter Bell seconded. Approved with 1 Nay.

Ecclesiastical Report: Father George presented a reading on the Apostle and Evangelist Luke whose feast day is October 18.

Ministries

Finance – Steve Milak reported that as of 90/30/24 Capital Account Balance is \$558,098. Operating Account Balance is \$662,352. Steve reported that the Cash Balances over time are following the usual pattern.

Stewardship: Sandy Pihos

Metric	Sep 2023 YTD	Sep 2024 YTD	% Change
Number of Pledges	629	673	7%
Total Pledged	\$768,103	\$825,617	7%
Amount Collected	\$687,807	\$741,473	8%
Median Pledge	\$600	\$600	0%
Average Pledge	\$1,221	\$1,227	0%

For the record, we have achieved 90% of our goal to receive pledges from 750 families and 69% of our goal to fund the church's entire operating budget of \$1,189K through pledges.

It's also the first time that our pledged dollars have ever exceeded \$800,000. Still, the percentage of stewards who have pledged \$1,500 or more, an amount equivalent to 2% of a \$75,000 household income, is only 21%.

We have 2 new members on the Welcoming Committee. The Fall Planting went very well. There will be no Bingo Night. Discussion on Stewardship Sunday took place at the Stewardship Meeting. It was advised that Time and Talent should be included in any Stewardship Communications.

Building and Grounds: Chris Pepke reported that Weiss Lawn Care begins tomorrow. Trees were taken care of earlier because one had fallen on a neighbor's home. There was little pushback from the neighbors about the removal. The HVAC has been switched to heat. Separating from CND for landscaping. The roof inspection went well – no debris. Front door repair – concrete work - \$35,000; door hardware - \$23,000 for a \$58,000 material purchase. We had budgeted \$50,000.

Technology: Steve Milak reported that the \$10,000 grant was approved.

Old Business

Foundation – The Selection Committee will be accepting Board of Directors applications – received 2 as of today. They are advertising, calling people and informing them that there will be quarterly meetings and an annual meeting. If they do not have enough applicants, the deadline will be extended by 30 days.

Chapel Hill Plots: Patty Pappas reported that there has been some movement with the 24 plots that need to be swapped – legality has stalled – final received a reply from Chapel Hill. Patty and Joan Berg will review the new contracts. We had a sale of 2 plots for \$9,000. A parishioner had a receipt for 2 plots that they had not chosen. They are in the process of doing so now.

Youth Safety Compliance: Lou and Patty watched a webinar on the subject. Training must be completed every year. Background checks must be completed every 2 years. No one can be on the ballot for the Parish Council unless completed. Lou will run a report to see what each PC member who is on the ballot needs to be in compliance.

Election of PC members: Sandy Pihos reported that she had put together notebook for elections. The timeline needs to be followed. All candidates will receive a packet of rules. The Board of Elections will need help.

65th Anniversary Luncheon: All is going well. Invitations are mailed; tickets are being sold, sponsorships are being sold.

New Business:

Parish Council is asking the clergy to speak out about the need for volunteers

Nick Kirkeles that we will need additional funds for basketball. We have a 3rd & 4th grade team, a 5th & 6th grade team, little girls and big girls teams. We're short on Jr. GOYA and GOYA. We will need additional uniforms and fees. We may start working with Holy Cross.

Chris Pepke reported that Zoe received 2 more grants for TVs. Chris questioned TV and furniture needs for both Greek School and Sunday School. He emphasized the need for collaboration. Building and Grounds will need to sign off on any changes to the facility. Greek School and Sunday School need to meet with their Parish Council liaisons and Building and Grounds.

Greek School PTO is planning on changing the name for their dinner dance to state *hosted by the Greek School PTO*.

Chris Pepke moved that Minute Man Press of Oakbrook Terrace our preferred parish printer. Nick Kirkeles seconded. Unanimously approved.

FYI – Sacramental paperwork has gone online.

Next Meeting – Nov. 21, 2024

Key Dates;

Philoptochos Fashion Show – Oct. 19, 2024

Men's Ministry Cookout – Oct. 27, 2024

PC Elections – Dec. 8, 2024

65th Anniversary Luncheon – Dec. 29, 2024

Feed6 – Jan. 11, 2025

Closing Prayer – Father Nicholas

Adjournment – 9:15 pm

Absent – Norm Pomrening, Jim Maragos