

**St. John's Greek Orthodox Church
Parish Council Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2023**

Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis
Rip Panos — Vice President
Jim Armstrong
Nick Katzaras
Alexis Scarfogliero

John Zelatis — President
Marilyn Sandborn — Secretary
Amin Hanhan
Suzanne Pileggi
Marcelle Triantafilou
Vasili Panagopoulos

Absent: Mike Xenick, Gary Ward

Christ is risen!

A. Prayer, Call to Order and Roll Call of Members present

Fr. Stavros offered the Opening Prayer. The Meeting was called to order by President, John Zelatis at 6:39 pm. The Secretary, Marilyn Sandborn recorded the members present.

B. Approval of the minutes of the last meeting

Amin H. made a Motion to Approve the PC Minutes from 3/20/23. Suzanne P. seconded. Motion carried (unanimous)

C. Priest's Report / Book Discussion — See attached

Fr. Stavros began by thanking everyone who helped with Holy Week. He also thanked John Z. for the fabulous feast he prepared following the Anastasi. He advised that there were 6 adult Chrismations and 1 adult baptism held during Great Lent. This is very positive. Further, he is encouraged by a renewed interest by those in the young adult age bracket. The last young adult dinner/discussion was very well attended and lasted several hours. The Junior Olympics is coming up in June and time will be spent making plans for that. Fr. Stavros then emphasized his continuing and growing concern about the school as our tenant. The building and grounds are not being taken care; the work environment is becoming unpleasant as the students are disrespectful of persons and property. The administration is unresponsive.

A brief discussion of remaining chapters of Excellence Wins followed. The PC members felt that the book was insightful and a worthwhile read.

D. Officer Reports

1. President's Report — None
2. Treasurer's Report — None

E. Committee Reports

1. Building and Grounds

A. Church Expansion — Rip P. is working with the architect to provide additional information in furtherance of the expansion project.

B. Community Center Canopy

President John Z. reported that there is a \$16,000 disparity between what the insurance will pay and the actual estimated cost to complete the repairs. A meeting will be held with the school where a demand for that amount will be made as the canopy damage occurred within the purview of the school's operation. The school should be completely responsible for the cost of the repairs to the extent that insurance does not pay. If the school refuses to pay, a lawsuit to compel payment may be necessary.

At this time there was further discussion about the school's lack of care for the building and grounds. Felix has patched many holes in the walls in the Kourmolis Center; the gym floors used to be swept regularly, but that has not been happening; the bathrooms are often left dirty and broken; there is litter and food remnants on the sidewalks and walls. Mike X. will insist on a mandatory meeting with the school administration in the coming week to review the defects on the property and require an immediate plan for repairs and corrective action. In order to have proof of the damage occurring in the Kourmolis Center, we will have to replace the recorder that is paired with the cameras in the money room/Kourmolis Center/kitchen.

Alexis S. made a Motion to approve an expenditure of up to \$500 to replace the recorder and other equipment that would allow for storage of data recorded by the security cameras in the Kourmolis Center/kitchen. Nick K. seconded. Motion carried (unanimous).

2. Stewardship Report — See attached.

President John Z. presented the stewardship report on behalf of the stewardship committee. The committee could use additional help; especially with one-on-one and small group conversations with members about the stewardship program and the need for everyone's participation. A closer look at the LYBNTs suggests that there are many families who are active and often seen in Church and at ministry functions, but have not filled out a pledge form. Theoretically, we should expect to be seeing pledge forms from many of these families. When that happens the numbers in the report will be more favorable and in line with what we have seen in the past. It was suggested that there be small meetings/dinners to tap into the stewardship resources that appear to exist. Jim A. volunteered to sit at a table in the Kourmolis center after liturgy on Sundays to help serve as convenient reminder for parishioners to turn in pledge forms.

F. Old Business

1. Aris Spirtos (Pastoral Assistant Candidate)

We are awaiting his response as to whether he is interested in the Pastoral Assistant/Chanter position. We will continue to seek out other candidates, although there do not seem to be any current prospects.

2. Action Items

After further investigation, it is recommended that the cages on the overhead lights in the Kourmolis Center be replaced the next time there is a need to service/replace the fixtures. This way we will only incur the expenses of a mechanical lift one time.

3. Parish Assistance Program

It is almost time to renew this program provided through Baycare Health System. In the past, a parishioner has anonymously funded one half of the annual cost to make this program available. Marcelle T. volunteered to obtain data from the past year about the program's use and effectiveness. She will also ascertain whether the program will continue to be funded (all/in part) by the current benefactor. Once we are able to consider that information a decision can be made about renewal.

G. Regular Business

1. Insurance

President John Z. advised that he is waiting to hear back from the insurance agent about the premium costs for wind coverage.

H. New Business

1. AED Training

Marcelle T. announced that there are two available dates for CPR and AED training — either Sunday, May 28 or June 4. Seeing that May 28 is Memorial Day Weekend, June 4 was selected. The training and certification takes 2.5 - 3 hours at a cost of \$65/per person. The following people should become certified: priests, pastoral assistant, office staff, PC members, and all ministry leaders who may have occasion to be holding a meeting/practice/event at times when other trained users would typically not be on the church campus. It was also discussed that there should be an additional AED on the church campus (in the church office).

Jim A. made a Motion to approve an expenditure of up to \$2,500 to cover the cost of (i) CPR/AED training and certification and (ii) a second AED. Rip P. seconded. Motion carried (unanimous).

2. Festival

Mike X. advised that he will be sending out a communique to the parish announcing the financial results of the the 2022 Festival. He also advised that a planning meeting for the 2023 Festival would be held in the first part of May.

3. Clergy Laity June 21-25, 2023

The Clergy-Laity Conference will be held in Tarpon Springs this year (June 21-25). Jim A. volunteered to attend the conference as a representative of the Parish Council of St. John's. Fr. Stavros will also attend.

4. Fr. Stavros 25th Anniversary — May 15th

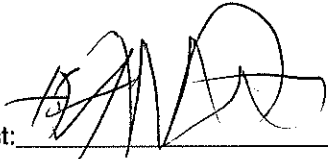
May 15th is the 25th Anniversary of Fr. Stavros' ordination to the the priesthood. He would like to commemorate the occasion by celebrating the Divine Liturgy on the evening of May 15th. Following the liturgy, the Parish Council would like to offer a dinner in honor of Fr. Stavros.


Jim A. made a Motion to approve a gift to Fr. Stavros of \$100 per year for each year that Fr. Stavros has served as a priest (\$2,500). Alexis S. seconded. Motion carried (unanimous).


I. **Date for next PC Meetings— May 22, 2023 (Mon) @ 6:30pm**

J. **Adjournment; Closing Prayer**

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm. Fr. Stavros offered a closing prayer.

Priest:  _____

President:  _____

Secretary:  _____