

**St. John's Greek Orthodox Church
Parish Council Meeting Minutes
June 12, 2023**

Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis
Rip Panos — Vice President
Marilyn Sandborn — Secretary
Amin Hanhan
Suzanne Pileggi
Mike Xenick
Vasili Panagopoulos

John Zelatis — President
Gary Ward — Treasurer
Jim Armstrong
Nick Katzaras
Alexis Scarfogliero

Absent: Marcelle Triantafilou

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 6:40 pm. The Secretary, Marilyn Sandborn recorded the members present.

B. Approval of the minutes of the last meeting

Jim A. made a Motion to Approve the PC Minutes from 5/22/23. Gary W. seconded. Motion carried (unanimous)

C. Priest's Report — See attached

Fr. Stavros reported that the Junior Olympics held this past weekend took up a lot of his time over the past several weeks. Several last minute issues came up that had to be dealt with. There followed a discussion of the disappointing behavior of the participants and parents from some of the other parishes and what can be done differently next year. He also has been spending time in preparation for St. Stephen's camp (June 29-July 8). At this time there was further discussion about certain individuals who sit in the Hall talking, drinking coffee, i.e. not worshipping and being oppositional when asked to vacate the space when it is needed for other purposes (Sunday School, Junior Olympics). This situation is ongoing. Our security team will begin monitoring and escorting the individuals out of the Hall if they do not leave voluntarily when asked by the ushers.

D. Officer Reports

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

Gary W. reported that through May, the net surplus stands at \$71.4 thousand. The total bank accounts balance is \$1.2 million, over \$100 thousand more than at the same time last year.

Nick K. moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Amin H. seconded. Motion carried (unanimous)

E. Committee Reports

1. Building and Grounds

A. Church Expansion

Rip P. reported that the updated architectural proposal is still being finalized.

B. Community Center Canopy

Rip P. reported that All Phase, the contractor, is ready to begin the repair and construction work on the canopy once the Notice of Commencement is issued. The cost of the repair and construction work is approximately \$173,000. The total cost to be incurred as a result of the damage caused by the School's bus is \$196,000. The insurance company is offering \$180,000 and requiring a Release signed by the Church. Attorney, Chris Kavouklis is assisting with negotiations with the insurance company to procure payment of the full amount of \$196,000. Time is of the essence in beginning and completing the repair and construction work before school starts up again. There are safety concerns with delaying the work while the negotiation continues.

Jim A. made a motion that (i) the Notice of Commencement be issued to All Phase, the Contractor selected to perform the repair and construction work on the damaged canopy, and (ii) an initial payment of \$35,000 be approved for the beginning phase of the work. 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 numbers reported are improved from the prior month, but still not to the level of the prior year. The LYBNTY mailing was completed at the end of May. There is an expectation that there will be an improvement as a result of the mailing. There are plans for continued efforts to reach families who have not completed a pledge form, and plans for continuing education about the need for everyone to be a steward.

F. Old Business

1. School

Mike X. reported on the follow-up meeting with the school. A school operations person came to campus and did a building-by-building walk through to identify all the repairs and improvements needed. A detailed list is being finalized and will be reviewed. Another major concern addressed is the noise level that is constantly present all day when school is in session. The school has proposed a procedure to route the students along paths that do not repeatedly go past the Church office — this should reduce the noise and disruption. There is a path that goes around the back side of the administrative building to get to the courtyard for lunch; however it requires the students to walk over a wooden deck that needs to be removed and replaced with some alternative path — e.g. turf. Mike X. will explore what the cost will be to do this and who will be responsible for the cost. A final issue is the flooring on the first floor of the school building — it has been subjected to excessive wear and tear and will need to be replaced at some point.

Mike X. also reported that Attorney Chris Kavouklis is advising on the lease from a legal standpoint. He is requesting all documents pertaining to the leasing relationship. He will be documenting instances that constitute breaches under the lease and propose a course of action that would give the Church the opportunity to renegotiate some of the terms of the lease, namely a shortened term.

2. AED

Discussion postponed until the next meeting.

3. Festival

Mike X. reported that it still has not been decided whether it will be a 2 or 3 day festival; if it is a three day festival it would be Friday, Saturday, and part of Sunday.

4. Clergy Laity June 21-25, 2023

Fr. Stavros and Jim A. have registered and will be attending the Clergy Laity Conference in Tarpon Springs, June 21-25.

5. Pastoral Assistant/Ministry Coordinator

Fr. Stavros reported that he continues to ask various contacts at other parishes if anyone can recommend a pastoral assistant candidate. He has pursued leads and spoken to possible chanter candidates, but has not yet identified a viable candidate for either position.

6. Insurance

President John Z. reminded that a decision had to be made regarding procuring coverage for wind damage. The Parish Council discussed and considered the following: the premiums being quoted in relation to the coverage provided; the state of the insurance industry in general in Florida; many businesses are opting to self-insure due to rising premiums and lack of available coverage; the actual risk of a storm occurring in the Tampa area with winds that would cause significant damage; that there are presently funds available to be set aside to fund a self-insurance reserve; the amounts that are budgeted annually to pay the premiums would instead be deposited into the insurance reserve; the funds will be invested in a safe investment (e.g. money market) where interest can be earned.

Jim A. moved to self-insure for the wind coverage; \$580,000 will initially be set aside and invested in a money market Alexis S. seconded. Motion carried (unanimous).

7. Action Items

President John Z. reviewed the completed and outstanding action items from the previous meeting.

G. Regular Business

1. Donation for Dome Restoration

This discussion is postponed.

H. New Business

1. Philoptochos

Fr. Stavros advised the Parish Council that the philoptochos is requesting that the Parish Council and Philoptochos coordinate efforts in hosting the Feast Day of St. John the Baptist in January. John Z. volunteered to be the point of contact between the philoptochos and Parish Council.

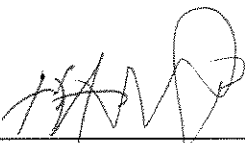
2. Church Office

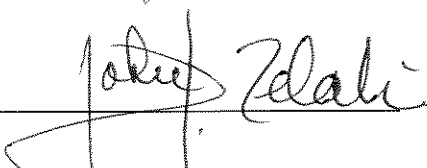
The church offices and Fr. Stavros' office are in need of painting and recarpeting. The carpeting in the Church narthex also needs to be removed/replaced. Nick K. volunteered to obtain estimates relating to the carpeting. Rip P. volunteered to get a quote for repainting the offices (church office and Fr. Stavros' office).

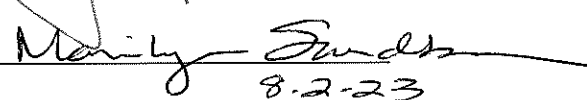
I. **Date for next PC Meeting — August 2, 2023 (Wed) @ 7:00pm; Parish Assembly — October 22**

J. **Adjournment; Closing Prayer**

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm. Fr. Stavros offered a closing prayer.

Priest:  _____

President:  _____

Secretary:  _____
8-2-23

St. John's Greek Orthodox Church Parish Council Meeting Agenda

June 12, 2023

6:30 PM

Meeting Location: SJGOC

- A. Prayer, Call to Order and Roll Call of members present.
- B. Approval of Minutes of the Last Meeting
- C. Priest's Report
- D. Officer's Reports
 - 1. President's Report
 - 2. Treasurer's Report
- E. Committee Reports
 - 1. Building & Grounds
 - A. Church Expansion
 - B. Community Center Canopy
 - 2. Stewardship Report
- F. Old Business
 - 1. School
 - 2. AED
 - 3. Festival
 - 4. Clergy Laity June 21 – June 25, 2023
 - 5. Pastoral Assistant/Ministry Coordinator
 - 6. Insurance
 - 7. Action Items
- G. Regular Business
 - 1. Sam Toney – 100k Donation for Dome Restoration
- H. New Business
 - 1. Philoptochos
 - 2. Church Office
- I. Confirm Date of next PC Meetings:
- J. Adjournment: Closing Prayer

**Parish Council
Priest Report
June 2023**

Liturgical Ministry—In June, in addition to the Sunday services, we have three weekday liturgies, one paraklesis and one adult baptisms, two baby baptisms and one wedding. In July, there will be three weekday liturgies in addition to Sundays. I will do two of them and Fr. John will do the other.

Youth

1. We had our June GOYA meeting on Sunday, June 4, where we welcomed our new GOYAnS and bid farewell to our seniors.
2. Junior Olympics—I spent a lot of time with Dwight Forde organizing the Junior Olympics, including finding refs where our head ref had a stroke three days before the event. I also helped draw up the brackets and work out logistics. During the event, I offered an Orthros and Vespers with accompanying sermons, did logistics throughout, and supervised all basketball and volleyball games to make sure the kids behaved.
3. College event—Hosted a dinner for our returning college students on Tuesday, June 6.
4. Young Adults—Had our monthly young adult group on Thursday, June 8, with 31 young adults in attendance, our best meeting ever.

Logistical planning—a lot of that takes place at this time of the year.

1. Working on parish calendar, and getting it to the school, and to everyone else.
2. Recruiting altar boys
3. Meeting with each ministry to go over calendar and ideas for events
4. Meeting with Sunday school to go over calendar.
5. Still no news on pastoral assistant/chanter.

Pastoral Care-

1. An uptick in confessions and counseling this month, including several couples going through pre-marital counseling. Also, going to lunch individually with our graduating seniors before they go to college.

Away from St. John

1. Attended a funeral in Asheville for a former parishioner.
2. Attended Divine Liturgy at Holy Trinity in Clearwater for their feastday, where I was both the celebrant and homilist.
3. Will be attending the clergy-laity conference June 22-24 in Tarpon Springs.
4. St. Stephen's Summer Camp—Spending a LOT of time in preparation for summer camp by preparing curriculum and logistics.

Out of town

1. Will be at St. Stephen's Summer Camp from June 29-July 8.

St John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church
Statement of Activities
May 2023

| | Actual | Budget | Variance Pos Neg |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| <u>Operating Revenue</u> | | | |
| 1 Stewardship | \$312,815 | \$275,000 | \$37,815 |
| 2 General Donations | 47,659 | \$34,167 | 13,492 |
| 3 Candles | 9,319 | 10,000 | (681) |
| 4 Utilities Reimbursement | 25,797 | 23,805 | 1,992 |
| 5 Other Operating Revenue | 21,929 | 1,250 | 20,679 |
| Total Operating Revenue | \$417,519 | \$344,222 | \$73,297 |
| <u>Operating Expenses</u> | | | |
| 6 Personnel | \$201,174 | \$181,660 | \$19,514 |
| 7 Utilities | 47,454 | 36,425 | 11,029 |
| 8 Insurance | 10,156 | 37,500 | (27,344) |
| 9 Supplies | 22,588 | 16,250 | 6,338 |
| 10 Administrative Expenses | 22,346 | 16,110 | 6,236 |
| 11 Repairs and Maintenance | 5,968 | 8,750 | (2,782) |
| 12 Professional Fees | 6,457 | 2,000 | 4,457 |
| 13 Archdiocese/Metropolis | 58,096 | 47,901 | 10,195 |
| 14 Charitable Contributions | 62,500 | 18,171 | 44,329 |
| 15 Ministries | 0 | 10,667 | (10,667) |
| Total Operating Expenses | \$436,739 | \$375,434 | \$61,305 |
| Net Operating Income (Loss) | (\$19,220) | (\$31,212) | \$11,992 |
| <u>Events (Net)</u> | | | |
| 16 Festival | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| 17 Gasparilla Parking | 4,718 | 3,000 | 1,718 |
| Net Events Income | \$4,718 | \$3,000 | \$1,718 |
| <u>School (Net)</u> | | | |
| 18 School Lease | \$85,972 | \$85,972 | \$0 |
| Net Surplus (Shortfall) | \$71,470 | \$57,760 | \$13,710 |
| <u>Reserves</u> | | | |
| 21 Operating | \$71,470 | \$57,760 | \$13,710 |
| 22 Capital | (25,827) | 0 | |
| 23 Mortgage | 0 | 0 | |
| 24 School Building & Grounds | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Change in Reserves | \$45,643 | \$57,760 | (\$12,117) |

Good evening, Father Stavros and Parish Council Members of St. John Greek Orthodox Church.

Here is the current Stewardship report thru May 31, 2023.

The numbers continue to improve. Total Pledged and Unpledged Collected has reached \$471,967. We now have 297 committed stewards. We need 66 more committed families, pledging a total of almost \$90,000 to reach the 2022 total. We need to collect \$357,640 to match LY Total Collected. We will mail out status letters to all at mid-year.

Our LYBNTY number is down to 94. We completed the LYBNTY mailing in late May. Hopefully, our report next month will show good improvement. We will repeat this in the third and fourth quarter. In addition, a SYBNTY mailing is being prepared now. This vetted list of 75 or so local families have not been members in 2 or 3 years. We will continue to pursue this list as well with mailed communication.

I will be manning a Stewardship Table on Sunday's, beginning in August. The message is; Stewardship is all inclusive....no tray passing....no Sunday school fees.... etc. Will families be allowed to register their child for Sunday School without being a Steward ? If you are using the services and ministries which we offer, twenty or so of them, then you really need to be a Steward. If anyone has any suggestions for the table, please let us know.

Please contact George if you have any questions on the information presented. (813) 748-1220.
Respectfully submitted,

Chris Kyrus

George Mitseas

SIGOC Stewardship Update Parish Council

May 31, 2023

| | 5/31/2023 | 5/9/2023 | 22 Day Change | 5/15/2022 | Year Change | 12/31/2022 | Needed to meet 2022 |
|--|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Current \$ Pledged | \$ 403,997.00 | \$ 391,597.00 | \$ 12,400.00 | \$ 467,825.00 | \$(63,828.00) | \$ 488,486.00 | \$ 84,489.00 |
| \$ Unpledged-Collected | \$ 67,970.00 | \$ 46,022.00 | \$ 21,948.00 | \$ 26,798.00 | \$ 41,172.00 | \$ 85,726.00 | \$ 17,756.00 |
| Total pledged and Unpledged Collected | \$ 471,967.00 | \$ 437,619.00 | \$ 34,348.00 | \$ 494,623.00 | \$(22,656.00) | \$ 574,212.00 | \$102,245.00 |
| Total Collected Including Unpledged \$ YTD | \$ 290,856.00 | \$ 240,328.00 | \$ 50,528.00 | \$ 309,259.00 | \$(18,403.00) | \$ 648,496.00 | \$357,640.00 |
| LYBNTY Total # | 94 | 130 | -36 | 104 | (10) | 53 | 41 |
| LYBNTY Pledged/Paid | 96,541/89,666 | 100,440/122639 | X | 89,440/84192 | X | \$40,020/\$38,696 | X |
| Average Pledge | \$ 1,844.00 | \$ 1,957.00 | \$ (113.00) | \$ 1,727.00 | \$ 117.00 | \$ 1,656.00 | X |
| Median Pledge | \$ 1,000.00 | \$ 1,000.00 | \$ - | \$ 1,000.00 | \$ - | \$ 800.00 | X |
| Average of Pledged & Unpledged | \$ 1,589.00 | \$ 1,680.00 | \$ (91.00) | X | X | X | X |
| Median of Pledged & Unpledged | \$ 800.00 | \$ 800.00 | \$ - | X | X | X | X |
| Number of Stewardship Pledge Forms | 219 | 202 | 17 | 245 | -26 | 295 | 76 |
| Number of Stewards without Pledge Forms | 78 | 60 | 18 | 50 | 28 | 68 | -10 |
| Total Number of Families \$ Individuals Giving | 297 | 262 | 35 | 295 | 2 | 363 | 66 |