

**St. John's Greek Orthodox Church
Parish Council Meeting Minutes
March 20, 2023**

Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis
Marilyn Sandborn — Secretary
Amin Hanhan
Suzanne Pileggi
Mike Xenick

John Zelatis — President
Gary Ward — Treasurer
Nick Kataras
Marcelle Triantafilou

Absent: Rip Panos, Jim Armstrong, Alexis Scarfogliero, Vasili Panagopoulos

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 6:46 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 2/21/23. Nick K. seconded. Motion carried (unanimous)

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

Fr. Stavros reported that he had participated in the "Be Attentive" conference at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology in Brookline, MA. He noted that the number of men entering the seminary is diminishing. The Wednesday evening Lenten lectures have been well attended with different ministries provided the dinner following the Pre-Sanctified liturgy. Father said he has been pleased the the young adult group has reorganized and there seems to be good participation. The Women's retreat is scheduled for March 25.

A brief discussion of chapters 12 & 13 of Excellence Wins followed. We will discuss the remaining chapters of the book at the next meeting.

D. Officer Reports

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

Treasurer Gary W. reported that one half of the money in the endowment funds had been transferred into money market funds to take advantage the higher interest rates.

E. Committee Reports

1. Building and Grounds
 - A. Church Expansion — no report

B. Community Center Canopy

President John Z. reported that we continue to wait on the insurance proceeds so the repair and reconstruction work can begin.

C. Pressure Wash / School Grounds

Fr. Stavros advised the Parish Council that the sidewalks had been pressure washed, however the school grounds are not being properly cared for — there is trash on the grounds, inside and outside; the painted trim is scratched and scuffed; the bathrooms are a mess, with a toilet currently broken. It needs to be emphasized to the school that it is responsible to keep the space clean and to promptly repair damages caused by the students/staff.

D. Community Center Lights

Amin H. advised the Parish Council that the wire cage over one of the ceiling lights in the Kourmolis Center was detached on one side and hanging down. It needs to be determined if it must be repaired ASAP or if it can wait until other work requiring a lift is scheduled.

2. Stewardship Report — See attached.

President John Z. presented the stewardship report on behalf of the stewardship committee. While the number of “Total Number of Families/individuals Giving” is greater as compared to last year, the “Number of Stewardship Pledge Forms” and “Current \$ Pledged” is less. The Stewardship Committee again acknowledged Sandra Pappas and thanked her for her help in reviewing the PDS data and making corrections that are resulting in more accurate reports. Following the report there was discussion about what additional measures could be taken to emphasize the need for parishioners to complete pledge forms. Many people are coming and participating in ministries but are not officially stewards. One suggestion was that in addition to the stewardship information being published in the Messenger every month that there be quarterly presentations to the parish.

F. Old Business

1. Aris Spiritos (Pastoral Assistant Candidate)

There have been conversations with Aris Spiritos about the Pastoral Assistant/Chanter position. He has been presented with information about what the position entails and what would be expected of him. We are awaiting his response as to whether he is interested in the position.

2. Action Items

- A new camera is scheduled to be installed in the church this coming Thursday.
- There is still a question as to whether the temperature on the water heater for the baptismal font has been properly calibrated.
- Arrangements will be made to have the recipients of the Festival proceeds accept the donations on two Sundays after liturgy. One week for Agape services and another week for Lifepath Hospice and Love, Inc.
- Mike X. will prepare a letter to the community about the results of the 2022 festival.

G. Regular Business

1. Greek Independence Day Program / Luncheon — March 26

The Parish Council will provide and serve the luncheon (shrimp pasta). Plan for 200 people.

2. Saturday of Lazarus - Breakfast — April 8

A pancake breakfast will be served.

3. Anastasi Service

President John Z. volunteered to prepare another delicious feast following the Anastasi. Parish Council members will help serve. Plan for 150 people

4. Lenten Epistle Readings

Father Stavros asked for volunteers to read during some of the Holy Week services. Several members volunteered for specific days.

5. Insurance Renewal

President John Z. advised that he did not have any of the specifics for the upcoming insurance renewal but that he was told by our agent to expect a premium increase of about 10%. He asked the members to be on the lookout for upcoming information because it could be last minute and will require quick action.

H. New Business

1. Etiquette guidelines

There was discussion that children crying in Church during liturgy can be distracting to others worshipping. We want people to bring their children and babies to Church but there should be a reminder to be considerate and that it is okay to step outside with crying children.

2. Greek School

There was discussion that the other Greek School programs in the area end after the fifth grade. The program offered at St. John's should be similar in that regard.

Marcelle T. made a Motion that the Greek School program should end with the 5th grade. Nick K. seconded. Motion carried (unanimous).


3. Kim Rojas - 90 day review

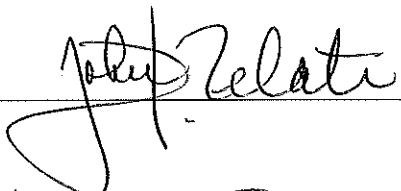
When Kim Rojas, administrative assistant was hired, it was agreed that she would be eligible for an increase in pay after 90 days if her performance met expectations. A 90 day review will be conducted with Kim, together with Fr. Stavros, John Z., Marilyn S., and Marcelle T.

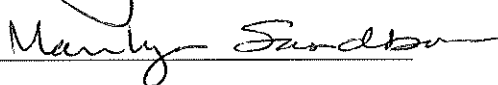
I. Date for next PC Meetings— April 24, 2023 (Mon) @ 6:30pm

J. Adjournment; Closing Prayer

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm. Fr. Stavros offered a closing prayer.

Priest:  _____

President:  _____

Secretary:  _____

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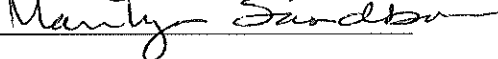
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