

# Dormition Greek Orthodox Church

## Parish Council Meeting Minutes 10/2/16

**Present:** Fr. Andreas Papayiannis, Justin Griffing (Treasurer), Eleni Churchill, Lynn Lambesis, Nectar Rorris, Sotos Papaseraphim, Georgia Maheras (President), Jacqueline Maria, Angelike Contis.

Meeting called to order at 12.15

***Nectar makes motion to approve minutes of September 4, 2016, with correction adding Father's name among those present. Justin seconds motion. Passes, but Eleni, Jackie & Sotos abstain because were not present.***

**Treasurer's Report (Justin)-** We are facing a financial problem, with stewardship income down over last year. Net revenue for September was -\$9,792. Checking balance is at \$396.99. Trimming monthly expenses could be hard, as of the \$9000/month total expenses, there are \$6000 in paid benefits and mostly other fixed costs.

Additionally, the Metropolis just increased our \$666 monthly fee. Georgia/Father were able to negotiate this down to \$1000/month, from what was being asked. This means an increase from \$8000/year (current) to \$12,000/year. The following year it will reach \$16,000/year. The fee is based on operating expenses in 2015 (not including capital or moving expenses) as well as overall increased fees asked by the Archdiocese of the Metropolis. Georgia reminds group that our figure (\$666/month) was artificially low and this is a correction; other Metropolis parishes our size are paying more.

There are some IRS issues regarding car and house expenses reported on payroll taxes. For the parish house, \$1900/month is a fair market value figure, as utilities are provided at \$500-600/month Justin will check fair market value, which is fixed at start of the year. If church pays car lease directly, instead of providing allowance, it will not be taxed.

***Justin makes a motion to for church to pay Fr. Andreas' car lease directly, plus offer a \$50 gas card, rather than a \$400 car allowance. Nectar seconds. Motion passes.***

***Nectar makes a motion to move \$13886.48 from Ducas to Cunavelis fund, to cover drainage, surveying and sign work not specific to ramp project. Eleni seconds. Passes. Sotos abstains.***

This will leave \$23,000 in Ducas fund.

**Mary X. Pappas Donation (Georgia)-** The bequest has been given to church and the executor suggests a new baptismal font. There is no restriction on funds. Georgia will draw up a proposal for council to consider of how the \$360,000 might be allocated between operating and capital, before general assembly.

Angelike suggests returning to the capital needs study of last year, for lasting project ideas. Georgia notes that this bequest too might cover the request at the last general assembly, Community Center Trustees (Theodora Contis, Deborah Rorris and Nick Danigelis) that \$13,987 borrowed by the church be returned to the Community Center fund.

**Ramp Update:** Mike Plageman has been released from the project. The church extended the work permit another year, in its own name (\$106).

Buildings and Grounds Committee met with Forrest White (of Plant & Stone company). SD Ireland also gave opinion. Plant & Stone gave two estimates (half of Plageman's estimates) for work (including sealant on concrete) that needs to be done soon, as winter approaches. They include: 1) Bluestone/drainage work (\$5,320) and 2) Landscaping-related excavation and work (\$4,200). Note, the new plan does not include veneer.

***Justin moves to accept Plant & Stone estimates. Lynn seconds. Sotos objects. Motion passes***

Buildings and Grounds will look further into work on the door (by Polli Construction Co.) and getting railing estimates yet for Joe's continued work on railing. There is a need to straighten doors; Plageman removed iron bits that kept doors from warping. Committee will look into whether or not new doors will be purchased or old one repaired and panic hardware.

**Father's Report:** He is introducing new office hours and would like to address the delayed issue of changing his office setup. Father suggests hiring someone in the future to do bookkeeping and newsletter. An exterminator was brought in because there was a mice infestation under the church. Compost will have to move, as it makes the community center back entrance even more attractive to rodents. A new choir hymnal will come out soon, making the fall a good time to start up the choir again. Father as the parish's first priest, Father Georgiades, about the consecration of the church with lakovos in 1967. It was consecrated with relics located under the altar. However, the fire the following year destroyed them, so the church needs to be re-consecrated. Mariana's brother is now cleaning the church; he needs a list of tasks.

**General Assembly** - Due to Buildings and Grounds research needed, this will be moved to November 6th. On the agenda will be next year's budget, selecting an audit committee and trustees for Community Center (3-year terms have expired) and holding parish council elections. Terms are ending for Eleni, Steve, Georgia, Nancy, Angelike and Jackie.

**Other** - City of Burlington Zoning denied Majestic the use of our parking lot. Majestic is taking the issue to court. There was a suggestion that a plaque be added in the back of the church with Kathryn Tampas' name.

***Call to adjourn meeting by Justin, Eleni Seconds. Passes.***

***Meeting adjourns at 1.30pm.***

*Group examines ramp remaining issues and Angelike takes photos of door and landscaping problems.*