

**St. George Orthodox Church  
Parish Council Meeting  
October 17, 2021 • 12:30pm  
Agenda**

**Present:** Fr. Joel Gillam, Faris Ibrahim, Kerry San Chirico, Gary Sarkessian, Tony Nasr, Alex Ibrahim, Damon Henry, Ghassan Haddad, Cynthia Long, Ed Donahue

- I. Call to order and prayer at 12:28pm.
- II. Approval of Minutes
  - A. No corrections, Gary motioned, Alex seconded – minutes approved
- III. Pastor's Report (Fr. Joel Gillam)
  - A. DJ continuing O101 classes – one family of becoming catechumens in next few weeks; Several new people / families coming to St. George
  - B. Wedding scheduled for November, another wedding in May 2022
  - C. Nominating Committee and Annual Meeting
- IV. Chairman's Report (Faris Ibrahim)
  - A. Power to annex building came on mid-week – will need to get boiler and gas checked
  - B. Question about K&S status – supposed to be coming back Tuesday to finish external work
- V. Treasurer's Report (Tony Nasr)
  - A. Budget report
    - i. September donations: 12,447
    - ii. Expense 10610
    - iii. Net 1837
    - iv. Closed out change order for certitude for roof rectory
    - v. Building fund 58834
    - vi. Icon 12790
    - vii. Camp 450
    - viii. Soyo 2559
    - ix. Charity 1345
    - x. Emergency 31239
    - xi. 107217 – total funds – 1000 donation for door in building fund
    - xii. Closing balance operating 25617
  - B. Income about 5% above budget ytd
  - C. Expenses about 1.5% above budget
  - D. Question about school tax – usually due in September, tax bill not seen yet
- VI. Committee Reports
  - A. Hospitality Team (Ed Donahue)
    - i. Struggling to restart greeter program
    - ii. Need to restart coffee hour sign ups
  - B. St. Katherine Women (Cynthia Long)
    - i. SKW planning a trip for women

- C. Maintenance Committee (Gary Sarkessian)
    - i. Report emailed in advance
    - ii. Discussion about front door (replace vs. repair)
  - D. Sunday School (Caroline Becker)
    - i. Can have up to 10+ kids in age 4 through grade 3 class – may have space issue in the near future
  - E. Choir (Matt Gordon – not present)
    - i. No report
  - F. Icon (Kerry San Chirico)
    - i. Received updated sketches – will be discussing at upcoming icon committee meeting
  - G. Adult Christian Education (Kerry San Chirico)
    - i. Hosted Rita Madden in September for fall retreat
    - ii. Low turnout – could have advertised earlier and could have provided childcare
  - H. Teen SOYO (Alex Ibrahim)
    - i. Introductory teen SOYO event on 10/29 – bowling night
- VII. Old Business
- A. \$200 in gift cards to wawa and acme from charity fund for Fr. Joel to distribute
- VIII. New Business
- A. Gus – proposal to donate money for Lebanon relief
    - i. Fr. Joel clarified policies surrounding donations from churches to anything outside the US
    - ii. Motion (from Alex): ask for approval to collect and disburse funds to monasteries in Lebanon – motion passed
  - B. Motion: 2021 donations to Orthodox charities (Gary)
    - i. Motion passed with edit to send \$500 to IOCC for Lebanon

**First Motion:**

Send by October 31, 2021 the following donations to Orthodox non-profits organizations from church's general funds (checking account) as the already allocated \$500 within the 2021 church budget:

1. \$125 to Ancient Faith Radio, <https://www.ancientfaith.com/>
2. \$175 to Reconciliation Services, Kansas City, MO, <https://www.rs3101.org/donate>
3. \$200 to Neighborhood Resilience Project, Pittsburg, PA <https://neighborhoodresilience.org/>

**Second Motion**

Approve additional donations from church's "Charity Fund" for the following two organizations (by 10/31/2021)

1. \$500 to Project Home of Philadelphia <https://www.projecthome.org/donate>
2. ~~\$250~~ **\$500** extra to IOCC for ~~to~~ Lebanon ~~and Syrian~~ Relief efforts
  - Here you can "Direct my gift to:" Lebanon

- [https://support.iocc.org/site/Donation2?idb=1404518423&1400.donation=for m1&df\\_id=1400&mfc\\_pref=T&idb=0](https://support.iocc.org/site/Donation2?idb=1404518423&1400.donation=for m1&df_id=1400&mfc_pref=T&idb=0)

IX. General business and remarks

- A. Request to reserve bread for Sunday School teachers and students

X. Adjourn

- A. Meeting adjourned at 1:30pm with prayer.