

St. George Orthodox Church

Parish Council Meeting

January 14, 2024 - 12:30 pm

Agenda

I. Call to order and prayer

II. Approval of Minutes – December 2023 Minutes attached separately.

III. Pastor's Report (Fr. Joel Gillam)

- Thank you to everyone who came out for Bp. THOMAS's visit.
- Home Blessings are being scheduled this month.

IV. Chairman's Report (Alex Ibrahim)

- The church has set up a brokerage account with TD Bank and can now accept gifts of stock
- Working on renewing our sales Tax exemption with the state of Pennsylvania
- Please remember that the Annual Meeting will be held on Feb 4. Committee heads should prepare brief remarks on their committee to discuss with the church.

V. Treasurer's Report (Tony Nasr) –

Pending

VI. Committee Reports

a. Adult Education (Kerry San Chirico) – No report.

b. Choir (Karen Burke)

1. All Choir Rehearsals are on hold through January

2. Sunday Rehearsals will resume 2/11/24 twice a month until April

- 2/11 12:30-1:00pm
- 2/25 12:30-1:15pm
- 3/3 12:30-1:15pm
- 3/24 12:30-1:15pm
- 4/7 12:30-1:15pm
- 4/14 12:30-1:15pm
- 4/21 12:30-1:15pm

3. Tuesday eve. rehearsals will resume 2/6 on a limited basis to prepare for the Paschal Season

- 2/6 6:30-8:00pm
- 2/20 6:30-8:00pm
- 3/5 6:30-8:00pm
- 3/12 6:30-8:00pm
- 4/2 6:30-8:00pm
- 4/9 6:30-8:00pm
- 4/16 6:30-8:00pm

- 4/23 6:30-8:00pm

c. Icon Committee (Caroline Becker) – No report.

d. Long-Term Planning (Joseph Solomon)

1. We met before Christmas and decided to move forward with planning for a parking lot in the rear of the property with entrance and exit onto Cedar. I believe as a next step, PC should approve that we work with Gus or an engineer or lawyer to start preparing sketches to take to Upper Darby

2. Elevator: we all agree on the cost, I believe it's now back-burnered pending fundraising

e. Maintenance Committee (Gary Sarkessian)

Maintenance Committee met on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 8:00 PM (Joe Senior and Gary)

- Need lighting upgrades (security and illumination (Cross and Steps))
 - Light sconces (outside the front) – LED lights need to be replaced with photo sensitive ones that Joe SS bought
- Security “Cameras” and bars on alcoves
 - There are people living in the alcoves
- Church Clean-up day is Scheduled for Lazarus Saturday, April 27
- Gary to get door stoppers if [restroom] doors don’t stay open themselves. This helps to prevent pipes from freezing during the week
 - Tony, did you already buy rubber stoppers?
- The sump pump in the outside storage area (near the men’s room downstairs) probably doesn’t work
 - Gary will check to see if there is anything blocking the sump pump mechanism
- Gary gave Father Joel the electrical report we have. He is to contact the “Serbian Electrician” to get a price to do the things on the report.
 - Gary has the name of 2 other electricians who service Upper Darby
 - The lights do not seem to flash during liturgy during the fall/winter. They do flash during the summer when the A/C initially comes on.
- Faris is working on the HVAC balancing calculations.
- Faris and Joe Sr. will close up/ repair leaks in the HVAC duct work
 - (tape, magnets, etc)

f. Ministry Team (vacant) – No Report

g. St. Katherine Women (Cynthia Long)

1. February SKW Meeting will be held 2/18 due to Annual Meeting

2. Planning for Book Club [*Pearl of Great Price: The Life of Mother Maria Skobtsova* by by Sergei Hackel] on March 2 at Anastasia's

h. Stewardship Committee (Jerome Burke)

1. Plan for brief Stewardship presentation on 1/21 or 1/28 and coffee hour at that time
 - (may keep flexible to 1/28 as Karen's elderly parents may be coming down that weekend and they have not been here since before COVID)
 - need to do prior to 2/4 annual meeting

2. Discuss topic at presentation - ask for annual pledge -- discussion on when and how to launch capital improvement campaign-- receive guidance from Father Joel, PC and LRPC

i. Sunday School (vacant) – No report

j. Teen SOYO (Alex Ibrahim)

- Handing out cookies to the neighborhood was very successful and well attended by the Teens
- Next Event TBD

VII. Old Business

a. Nomination Committee (Gary Sarkessian)

1. Officers with expiring terms: Alex Ibrahim, Kerry S.C., and Lucy Ibrahim—terms expired 2023

2. Alex Ibrahim, Sherri San Chirico, Caroline Becker and Emma Ibrahim have agreed to run for a 3-year term starting 2024.

VIII. New Business

a. Annual Meeting: Feb 4, 2024

b. Library (Cynthia Long): Request to purchase 2 copies of “Way of the Pilgrim” to support Kerry’s Reading Group (\$5 ea or \$23 ea, depending on translator)

IX. General Business Remarks

a. Office Administrator (Cynthia Long)

1. Need Greeters & Readers for February 11

2. Newsletter Articles

The following people have volunteered or been asked to write an article for the parish newsletter for the following months:

- Joe Jr. Issue: Feb. 2024 Topic: LTP update Due Date: January 25
- Cynthia March 2024 SKW Due: 2/25
- Jerry May Stewardship Jerry, may I edit your “Thanksgiving” article or do you want to revise it? (Due: 4/25)

X. Adjourn