

**Parish Council Meeting  
April 10, 2022 • 12:30pm  
Minutes**

**Present** - Father Joel Gilliam, Gary Sarkessian, Tony Nasr, Joe Solomon, Cynthia Long, Marcia Binder Ibrahim, Alexander Ibrahim, Kerry San Chirico, Caitlin Gordon, Damon Henry, Ed Donahue, Jerome Burke

- I. **Call to order and prayer** - Fr Joel - 1 pm
  
- II. Correction of minutes from Parish Council Meeting - March 13,2022 - Cynthia Long - with respect to recognition of those providing hospitality (Lenten Food) at Spring Retreat and activities regarding activities of St Katherine Women
  
- III. **Pastor Report**
  - “Holy Week is Upon Us “ Father Joel encouraged as much participation as possible and best effort to attend services during Holy Week. Request that those who wish to be readers during Divine Services check with Fr Joel in order that certain standards be followed.
  - Orthodoxy 101 Classes to resume on Saturdays after Vespers after Pascha - designed for Catechumens and all wishing to advance their understanding of the faith
  
- IV. **Chairman’s Report** - Alex Ibrahim
  - Requested that Committee leaders submit ‘ Bullet Points ‘ 7-10 days for the agenda in advance of the next PC Meeting to maximize efficiency
  - An “Informal Appraisal “ is planned in near future of Saint George Properties/Assets by Jim Scott who does this work for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia
  
- V. **Treasurer's Report** - see attached - Tony Nasr
  - Review of Current Financials - contributions - running behind projections so far this calendar year
  - Monthly Assessment to the Archdiocese reviewed– approximately 600 Dollars per month - representing a 5 % tithe - desire for increased contribution once managing ongoing expenses- HVAC, Annex Repair -addressed
  - Higher Energy Bills in the coming year anticipated in light of supply chain instability and rising costs to impact this years budget
  - Overall Financial status is healthy

	<b>March</b>
Gross Receivables	\$ 12,440.55
Gross Payables	\$ (14,028.37)
<b>Operating Account Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 37,033.81</b>
<b>Fund Account Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 100,122.25</b>
Building Fund	\$ 49,571.25
Icon Fund	\$ 14,965.00

Camp Fund	\$	450.00
Teen SOYO	\$	3,551.00
Charity Fund	\$	345.00
Emergency Fund	\$	31,240.00

- Insurance installment payments, \$1731 vs \$1035, is adjusted (Jan-Apr) due to last year's issue with GuideOne EFT. Monthly premium should decrease going forward

VI. **Hospitality Committee**- Ed Donahue

- plans continue to formalize a regular Greeter's Schedule – and schedule for Readers - Fish Dinner for Palm Sunday - organized - Traditionally this has been an event that provided a brief respite from the Lenten Fast – historically - has functioned as a “donations luncheon” - Discussion ensued with respect to using collections for needed repairs and upkeep at St George's vs Charitable causes – i.e.-Ukrainian Relief, aid to Lebanon - which has borne the brunt of the Syrian refugee Crisis thru IOCC
- Father reminded that goals of fundraising to improve the physical status of the church are not mutually exclusive and Philanthropy to the disadvantaged is a cornerstone of our faith - “everything we have is a gift from God “
  - Use Jesus Christ's example “empty ourselves “ for others as He has done for us .

VII. **Maintenance Committee** - Gary Sarkessian

- See attached report - summary of meeting held April 4 2022
- Cleaning day schedule for April 16 with emphasis on cleaning the Annex - Need for a “ Wet Vac “ if anyone can donate
- Major Take Aways
  - Men's & Women's toilet clogs were due to not enough water being used to flush toilets. Will increase water in tanks on 4/16/22, Clean-up day
  - Joe Solomon HVAC. Possibly a \$21,850 cost for replacing 2 of the 4 HVAC units. Committee has written reports and proposal from Anthony of AB HVAC (Drexel Hill)
  - Please no parking in front of steps leading from church parking lot to the lower lot. Need access to these stairs.
  - Please leave Handicap parking to those who need it (elderly, families with babies)
  - Church clean up day, Saturday, April 16th Lazarus Saturday will begin after Divine Liturgy (Appr. 12:00 noon to 4 PM)
    - Focus on Church Annex, installing dehumidifiers and fans. Make sure circuit breakers don't trip in Annex.
  - There is no return duct for the heating system, so this needs to be addressed
  - Recommend increasing payment for cleaner from \$200 a month to \$225-\$240. Will add in wet mopping of church floor.

VIII. **Budget Committee** - Gary Sarkessian

- see attached report First Quarter 1/1/2022 to 3/31/2022

Income – Expenses = -\$2,483.46

Income: \$36,608 (84% of budgeted income)

- Charitable income
  - \$992 was raised by teen SOYO for charitable causes (homeless charity).
    - Money was transferred to teen SOYO money market funds
  - \$200 donated to “12 Baskets”

Expenses: \$39,091 (on budget)

- Paid Archdiocese \$600 a month. Budgeted amount was \$800 a month
- Gary needs to adjust insurance budget to accurately show correct monthly allocation
- Maintenance
  - \$3,075 Snow Removal
  - \$2,000 (estimated) is being spent to repair the rectory porch roof
- Utilities
  - Church Power (including Annex): 84% over budget (\$1,658)
  - Rectory Power: 72% over budget (\$1,406)
- Youth: \$360 for bible for Sunday School

IX. **Sunday School**– Fr Joel - - plans for showing preparation of gifts prior to Liturgy on Lazarus Saturday for students and anyone interested and talk after service

X. **Choir** -Caitlin Gordon (on behalf of Matt Gordon)

- major present focus is preparation for Holy Week Services -project underway to compile music in books to help with organization
- plan to send 2-3 choir members this summer to Sacred Music workshop at Antiochian Village this July if possible

XI. **Icon Committee** – no new reports

XII. **Saint Katherine Women** - Cynthia Long - see attached report

- Fundraising effort schedule for Palm Sunday with Bake Sale

XIII. **Teen Soyo** - Alex Ibrahim

- money raised from fundraiser on MeatFare Sunday slated to be used to provide up to 500 meals to the homeless or underserved
- Organizing schedule for Good Friday- “ All Night Vigil “ after Lamentations Service - Possible plans for fun group outing i.e. Phillies game

XIV. **Long term Planning** - no new reports

XV. **New Business / Old Business**

- Discussion on how to allocate donations received from Palm Sunday Fish dinner - Motion - Fr Joel - Proceeds raised be donated to IOCC - with 50 percent earmarked for Ukrainian Relief and 50 Percent toward efforts to aid Lebanon with respect the Syrian Refugee Crisis – motion seconded by Ed Donahue - Motion Unanimously adopted No further new or old business

XVI. **Motion to Adjourn**- 2 pm

- Alex Ibrahim - no dissenters

- Father Joel - closed the meeting with prayer

Respectfully submitted Jerome Burke