

**St. George Orthodox Church
Parish Council Meeting
November 13, 2022 • 12:30pm
Agenda**

- I. Call to order and prayer
- II. Approval of Minutes
- III. Pastor's Report (Fr. Joel Gillam)
- IV. Chairman's Report (Alex Ibrahim)
 - A. We are actively looking into setting up a stewardship committee and working on a mission and purpose.
 - B. Thanks so much for everyone who participated in an annual chili cook-off and Trunk or Treat. It was incredibly successful and provides a great jumping off point.
 - C. What do people think of a Christmas cookie bake-off as another St. George event? Maybe we do it in coordination with the Christmas show the Teen SOYO is planning?
- V. Treasurer's Report (Tony Nasr)
 - i. Checking Account Closure due to fraudulent activity. See attached Memo.
- VI. Committee Reports
 - A. Hospitality Team (Ed Donahue) **Out of Town**
 - i. Chili cookoff/trunk or treat was a great success. I was encouraged by with the level of participation and enthusiasm.
 - ii. In light of this, I'd like to attempt to do things of this sort more often
 - iii. Maybe quarterly....I think that's enough that we're building community and having fun/fellowship without over-taxing and over-scheduling. I'm thinking seasonal things (summer pool outing or bonfire, Christmas cookie party, etc).
 - iv. The last Sunday potlucks have also been working well. I'm planning on continuing this into next calendar year.
 - v. Still working on building up a better system for greeters. It's two steps forward, one step back, but hey...we're making progress.
 - B. St. Katherine Women (Cynthia Long)
 - i. Changing meeting schedule from Monthly to Quarterly.
 - ii. Next meeting: 1st Sunday in February 2023: Feb. 5, 2023
 - iii. Palm Sunday Bake Sale: April 9, 2023
 - iv. Art Museum Trip rescheduled to May 7, 2023
 - v. No Book Club This Year (unless someone volunteers).
 - C. Maintenance Committee (Gary Sarkessian)
 - i. Maintenance Committee Met 11/7/2022 (Gary, Ghassan, Tony, Alex attended via zoom) – Next meeting Monday, December 5 at 8 pm
 - ii. YTD Spending on Maintenance **\$12,176.14** (Cleaning, \$2,225/ Landscaping \$3,300 / Rectory Roof \$1,382 / Snow Removal \$3,665 (\$590 was for 2021) / **YTD Budget \$19,261 – about \$7,500 under budget**

- iii. Will make a motion to approve up to \$25,000 to replace 2 of the 4 HVAC units (inside and outside) in time for Spring 2023 A/C season (at November PC meeting)
 - iv. Discussed a plan on 11/7/22 for a wheelchair ramp (have 2 drawing). Cost (?) less than \$25,000 – Ghassan Haddad made drawings
 - v. Front Parking lot has 15 spaces. Possibly a rear parking area could have another 15-20 spaces (Long Term Planning Committee is investigating this)
 - vi. Concrete steps by the Annex need to be repaired (getting estimates)- POC Gary Sarkessian
 - vii. Kitchen sink dripping faucets are being addressed (Nassim Nasr by end of November).
 - viii. Sunday School expansion is being handled by Long Term Planning committee with help of Sunday School administration
- D. Sunday School (Caroline Becker)
- i. possible Nativity production during coffee hour 12/18 with Teen SOYO writing and directing.
 - ii. in discussions with long range planning committee regarding space concerns, both immediate and long term
- E. Choir (Karen Burke)
- i. We continue with weekly rehearsals. Looking ahead, I will be adding a couple of extra rehearsals to prepare for the upcoming Nativity services.
 - ii. After divine liturgy on 10/30, I provided a brief introduction on the role of music and choir as a vital ministry within the context of church services and life of the church. Parishioners were invited and encouraged to speak with me about joining choir. Fr Joel added that while singing/chanting is an important ministry, one does not need to be a professional musician to join. These skills can be acquired with practice and attending rehearsals.
- F. Icon (Caroline Becker)
- i. Nick Pappas confirmed receipt of measurements I sent to him and he's working on icons of St David of Wales and St Moses the Black. Unknown timeline and not yet sent a deposit as he hasn't requested it yet.
- G. Adult Christian Education (Kerry San Chirico)
- i. Fall retreat postponed until Spring to allow for more participation
 - ii. Book reading (St Gregory of Nyssa's *Life of Moses*) to begin in new year
- H. Teen SOYO (Alex Ibrahim)
- i. Traveled to Saint Vladimir's Seminary for the regional retreat and had 4 teens from the Church attend. It was a wonderful time and we got to have prayer and fellowship with other Teen SOYOs throughout the archdiocese.
 - ii. Teen Month with Teens greeting and reading the epistle was successful and the participation was very good.
 - iii. We have created a Teen SOYO text group with all of the teens currently participating in it.
- I. Long Term Planning (Marcia Ibrahim)
- i. The long term planning committee held a zoom meeting on
 - ii. Monday October 24 and had a productive discussion regarding many of the short and long term needs of the church with an immediate emphasis on securing additional space for our booming Sunday school program. The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for November 28 at 8:00 pm by zoom .

We also agreed to extend an invitation to Faris Ibrahim to be on the committee which he has accepted. If you have any thoughts or concerns please bring them to the attention of a member of the committee.

- iii. The possibility of cleaning out the church office and using it for Sunday school
- iv. Proposal to spend \$25,000 to repair the HVAC
- v. Setting up a stewardship committee in order to finance the long term committee projects
- vi. Office Clean Up
- vii. HVAC Purchase

VII. Old Business

VIII. New Business

IX. General business and remarks

X. Adjourn