

Parish Council Minutes August 14, 2022

Members present : Father Joel Gillam, Ed Donahue, Gary Sarkessian, Cynthia Long, Joe Solomon, Alex Ibrahim, Marcia Ibrahim, and, Jerome Burke

1. Call to order and opening prayer Fr Joel – 12:49 pm
2. Approval of PC minutes July 2022- unanimous consent
3. Pastor's Report -Fr Joel – Christiana Nicoloudakis will take over the role of office administrator effective September 1 , 2022. for Caitlin Gordon. Caitlin will be on maternity leave but will eventually be involved in other administrative duties and project/grant planning in the future while Christiana will continue to manage day to day operations.

-2 families are active inquirers

-Fall wedding former parishioner – Michael Pennington

-November wedding –Greg Pargono and Jennifer

-2 fall Baptisms - Caitlin Gordon and Holly Daniel

Fr-advised to be aware that there have been some problems with donations to the church via Pay Pal and to be on the lookout for issues

4. Treasurer's report – Gary S. –please see attached report

-highlights - \$ 10,000 donation in past month for capital improvement - - included in the 23,000 July balance sheet

-as of June 30, 2022 – positive balance of roughly 3500 dollars

-increased expenses “ red area “ in report from increased- energy costs-PECO Bill

-Reports available for review 4 times per year after reconciliation of monthly accounts available for anyone on PC or in the parish to review

-Motion to approve Budget Report – Unanimous approval

5. Hospitality Team –Ed Donahue---Parish Picnic planned to Sunday September 11- Ridley Creek State Park

–Pavilion 11-B after service – on line signup sheets have been sent out

-Plan for possible “ family day “ Saturday October 29 --“Chili Cookoff “and other activities in conjunction with Vespers – may coordinate a “ trunk or treat “ event as well for the children at this time

-awareness to help with “ meal train “ for families with new births this fall and spring and coordination

6. St Katherine Women – Cynthia Long – hosting trip to Philadelphia Museum of Art October 2- after liturgy of religious art exhibition

7. Maintenance Committee –Gary S. – Bathrooms issues resolved- status of A/C units – Fr Joel and Joe S addressing

–long term plan needed for HVAC- stable for now , no water problems now- landscaping bills coming in at this time

– services previously not billed this summer -400 per month for mowing -275 for keeping AC in Anex

-Front Doors sanded and painted by Ed and Alex—plan to sand and paint – metal side doors – may be able to do with a several (2-3 teams)

-Fall Cleanup Day planned for Saturday October 22

-Hired Church Cleaner – Danny -indicated that may have a discount on cleaning since he is there every week and for monthly cleaning less is required

-maintenance budget - money saved year to date so under budget by 4000 – savings on snow removal and annex expenses

8. Sunday School Report - Alex I for Caroline B- Sunday School begins September 18-registering students at this time and recruiting Adults to help with teaching

9 Choir Report – (Matt Gordon) 2 members sent to Sacred Music Institute in July at Antiochian Village in July- Karen Burke will be assuming role of Choir Director as of September 1 , 2022

Plans for at one Sunday per month who for those who cannot physically attend the Tuesday night rehearsals

10. Icon Committee – Alex I for Caroline B. –funds available for 2 panel Icons –Icons are moveable if this needs to be done in the future –(8700 dollar costs) Saint Moses the Black and Saint David of Wales

-Consensus was that the “ Troparion “ be attached to the Icons or at least hung underneath the Icons

-Motion to approve Icon request for 8700 to proceed – Unanimous approval

10. Adult Christian Education – Fr Joel for Kerry San Chirico –Fall and Spring Retreats- “ The Apostolic Church “

- review of what this means historically as well as today in terms of spreading the word of God and the Church – recruiting a clergy member with direct experience in this endeavor (African Minister) to take place over a the weekend of Friday November 11 to Sunday November 13

11. Teen SOYO- Alex I – no new report

12. Long Term Planning Committee – Marcia I – Committee is being formed – Joe S – will be Vice Chair – Alex I, Marcia I – Chair – Jerome B ,Tony N, Caroline B and Gary S are members –Fr. Joel suggested that a “ non-parish council “ member be part of the committee – important that a non PC member be available to communicate and answer question to the general parish

13. New Business- Fr Joel - review of proposals for “Parish Resource Management System”

Parish has reached a critical mass in terms or budget and number of parishioners were a advanced software is necessary

(see attached links) – data will include families, births anniversary and deaths and financial record keeping and accounting – will be helpful in setting up employee accounts – (i.e. - Office Manager, Sunday School Superintendent , Youth Minister or other paid positions) Would be helpful to not provide 1099 and tax records/and reporting . Simple files and Quick Books alone are not sufficient for our growing Parish .Some of the available systems enable parishioners to manage /amend their own information

Caitlin Gordon have reviewed proposed systems and cost available but are looking for PC input – input has been provided by other Orthodox Churches – some have full accounting capabilities while others do not and provide links to outside accounting vehicles

Links and spreadsheets provided in email link

10. Motion to Adjourn – Unanimous approval -1:50 PM

11. Closing Prayer- Fr Joel

Respectfully submitted

Jerome Burke