

St. George Orthodox Church
Parish Council Meeting Minutes
August 11, 2024 - 12:30 pm- 1:30

Present : Gus Haddad, Father Joel Gillam, Jerome Burke, Marcia Ibrahim, Michael Solomon, Joseph Solomon
Alex Ibrahim, Sherry San Chirico, Caroline Becker, Roxi Harne, Cynthia Long, Gary Sarkesian

I Call to order and prayer

II. July Minutes - approved by consensus

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

Saturday September 14- Baptisms and Chrismations - service in conjunction with the Feast of the Holy Cross

IV. Chairman's Report (Alex Ibrahim)

Remember that we have our calendar planning meeting on August 28th at 6:30pm. - Pizza and Salad will be provided

V. Treasurer's Report (Tony Nasr) –

Treasurer absent; July report will be submitted at September meeting.

Brief remarks:

- Gross Receivables \$14,290.60
- Gross Payables (estimated) \$19,026.55
 - UD School Tax: \$1,589.68
 - Landscaping: \$2,275.00 (Spring Mar-Apr 2024)

 - Icon costs- paid in full

VI. Committee Reports

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

b. Capital Campaign (Caitlin Gordon)

- CRM will be rolling out in August through September. Messaging to parishioners to begin next week.
- We will hold a Directory Sunday on 9/22 to gather updated data from parishioners.
- Continuing work on case statement for support. Full initial case statement should be ready by the end of the year.

c. Choir (Karen Burke)

- Anastasia, Gary and Karen had a fruitful trip to AV for the Sacred Music Institute. Chanting, singing, rehearsing, singing, Chanting.....repeat. The instructors and keynote speakers provided wonderful training and insights. It was a blessing to serve and learn with fellow

music ministry laity and clergy from across the US and Montreal, Canada!

- August Choir Rehearsals will be as listed on the google calendar: Sunday 8/4 and 8/18 from 12:15-1:15
- Choir gathering at the Sarkeesian's is scheduled for 8/25 in the afternoon, Thank You, Gary!

d. Icon Committee (Caroline Becker)—Date for hanging Icons

e. Long-Term Planning (Joseph Solomon) – No updates.

f. Maintenance Committee (Michael Solomon)

- Spare keys made for most of the church and surrounding buildings. Please contact me if you ever need to get in somewhere
- Water leaks on AC condensers 3 and 4 have been fixed. Maintenance will continue to keep an eye on these units going forward
- WiFi extension from rectory to be discussed and addressed ad-hoc with Fr. Joel and Chairman Alex
- Electric
 - Michael and Joe (the Elder) met with Advanced Electric to assess the causes of (1) regular light flickering and (2) upstairs fuse box sparking
 - Root causes identified: (1) Insufficient service provided to the main church building and (2) Degraded cloth insulation interacting with metal fuse box cover
 - Proposed solution for #1:
 - Upgrade current 200 amp service to 320 amp (400 amp not recommended, given need to install CT meter)
 - Upgrade existing main panel (remains 200amp)
 - Note: Will require minor code-compliance (decking) upgrades to utility room
 - Upgrade existing 125 amp HVAC subpanel (on stage) to 200amp
 - HVAC units require ~140 amp inrush current for startup (takes ~1s), which temporarily overloads 125 amp subpanel, causing lights to flicker
 - Upgrading to 200 amp sub panel would eliminate this issue, provided coupled units 1/2 and 3/4 never start at the same time (solution: set thermostats to slightly different temperature targets)
 - Keep existing 60 amp subpanel in kitchen
 - Keep existing fuse boxes feeding upstairs/downstairs lighting

Note - flickering lights are not a safety concern

Second proposal - re sheathing wires - much less costly and temporarily will fix the problem and much less cost - \$ 750. – vs. over \$ 7900

g. Ministry Team (Justine Leach/Roxi Harne) – - Roxi - will help with planning for annual fall picnic Sunday September 28 after Church -Ridley Creek State Park - (sign up genius for food and promotional flier)

h. St. Katherine Women (Cynthia Long)

- Sight & Sound Theatre Trip: “Daniel” on Sat. Nov. 9; \$84.55 Adult & \$42.09 child. Transportation and food extra.

i. Stewardship Committee (Jerome Burke)

- No updates
- Awaiting plan from PC and Long Range Planning with respect to Parking/Annex/ Rectory plans
- Will need to clarify – likely, once the plan is set forth -- the relationship, if any, between Stewardship and Capital Campaign Committees

j. Sunday School (Caroline Becker)

- No official report; working on S.S. year calendar.

k. Teen SOYO (Alex Ibrahim)

- Teen SOYO advisor duties will be transferred to Emma Ibrahim, Jacqueline Burke, and Christiana Nicoloudakis. Kaitlyn and I will be transitioning to a more advisory capacity.

VII. Old Business

- Update: Office Admin. is working on ordering more brochures for Narthex Literature Rack (approved at July meeting)

VIII. New Business

Gary Sarkesian - Ask permission from PC for his daughter in the great hall after services the last 2 Sundays in August to sell Armenian sweet bread with proceeds being sent to well vetted Charities for Palestinian relief-permission granted by unanimous consent IX. General Business Remarks

- Office Manager Updates
 - Thank you to everyone, especially Caitlin and Sheri, who assisted in Administrative duties while I was on Vacation
 - Readers and Greeters
 - To streamline efficiency, weeks will be assigned. A Fall 2024 schedule will be emailed in the near future. Please check the schedule for your name and date, and email the Office if you cannot serve on that day.

X. Preview of Upcoming Month

- Wed., Aug. 14: Dormition of Theotokos; Orthros 6 p.m. & Liturgy 7 p.m.
- Vespers Aug. 17 and Readers Vespers Aug. 24
- Potluck coffee hour last Sunday of the month -August 25
- Thurs. Aug. 29: Beheading of John the Baptist; Orthros 6 p.m. & Liturgy 7 p.m. (strict fast)
- Vespers Aug. 31.
- September 1 (Indiction) – Regular Sunday Liturgy
- Thursday, Sept. 5: Twelve Baskets
- Readers Vespers on Sept. 7
- September 8 (Nativity of the Theotokos)-Sunday Festal Liturgy
- September 8 – *tentative* – S.S. Meet and Greet
- Sat., Sept. 14 (Exaltation of the Holy Cross) – a.m. Orthros & Liturgy AND Lasner/Martin

Chrismations

- Also on Sat., September 14: Family Vespers 4:30 p.m. & Young Family Ministry
- September 15 — *tentative* – First Day of S.S. Also: Parish Council Meeting
- Sept. 22: Directory Day (update your directory info during Coffee Hour)
- Sept. 29: Annual Parish Picnic

XI. Adjourn