



HOLY TRINITY-ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Parish Council Meeting Minutes June 18, 2020

ATTENDANCE

Clergy: Father Mark Emroll, Deacon Nick Tzetzis

Members present: Gus Lazares (Presiding), Matthew Neuendorf (Recording), Joanne Georgostathis, Bill Kanelopoulos, Peggy Kehayes, Gus Poneris, Sylvia Rombis, Andrea Siouris, Tom Tsiominas

Members absent: Gus Koutsogiannis

Parish Staff: Eugene Nicholas

MEETING

The meeting was held via Zoom to comply with stay-at-home orders.

Call to order: Gus Lazares called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.

Fr. Mark led the council in the opening prayer.

President's remarks:

- Gus Lazares
 - We did a great job with the new procedures. It will likely get harder as time goes on. Hopefully we can see Phase 2 soon, along with an opportunity to develop plans for Phase 3.
 - Hopefully everyone is doing well.

Secretary's report:

- Matthew Neuendorf
 - Andrea Siouris moved to accept the May minutes as distributed online, Joanne Georgostathis seconded, the motion passed.
 - We had no received correspondence.

Clergy remarks:

- Fr. Mark
 - Discussed initial weeks with limited in-person worship.
 - We have had sacraments scheduled. Currently masks are mandatory, except for infants being baptized. Attendance is no longer limited to 10 but rather it follows the same capacity requirements as Sunday liturgy. Though we do not require reservations, attendance is still closed and any expansion should be immediate family only. We cannot host visitations. Bridal parties must maintain distancing and wear masks. It is easiest to maintain spacing with only sponsors, the maid of honor, and the best man on the solea.

- Father Mark will be away next week, from Monday through Saturday, but will be back for next Sunday.
- Deacon Nick
 - Digital ministries are going well. The Monday night group, reading “The Great Divorce,” is the first one that started digitally, and attendance numbers have been going up from week to week. Friday is smaller, as it’s during lunch.
 - HOPE/JOY story time on Thursday night had a good turnout.
 - We are looking for more ways to continue and to expand digital ministries, especially into next year, with all the uncertainty about how things will go. We’re not going to have a digital summer camp this year, as it is proving too difficult to get people together from the entire region.
 - We haven’t pushed the Discord much further yet, but this Fall especially we are going to have to lean on digital alternatives pretty heavily. It’s also amazing how many people 65 and older are using Zoom for reading groups.
 - Deacon Nick will be away from the office for a day or so next week.

Treasurer’s report:

- Peggy Kehayes
 - Northside Checking is at \$125,370 vs. \$56,710 in 2019.
 - The Capital Improvement Fund has \$68,495 vs. \$6,490 in 2019.
 - Our Endowment Fund has a balance of \$1,404,830 vs. \$1,310,460 in 2019
 - The Iconography Fund stands at \$2,065,780 vs \$0 in 2019.

Parish Administrator’s report:

- Eugene Nicholas
 - PPP Loan
 - We won’t apply for loan forgiveness until later, as the deadlines were extended. All funds were used based on the guidelines, so we should get full forgiveness.
 - Panegyri
 - The Panegyri expense items have been moved to the miscellaneous category, and baklava sales will be included in miscellaneous revenue. We have sold twelve pans so far. If you want to promote baklava sales, go for it. We have supplies in the event that we need to prepare more pans, which would be a good problem for us to have.

Stewardship Report:

- Bill Kanelopoulos
 - Commitments are \$391,030 compared to \$353,120 last year, an increase of \$37,000. Total pledges are up about \$20,000 from last year. Received Stewardship is up considerably, around \$45,000 from last year.
 - The committee met on June 2 and decided on our 2021 theme: “Thy Will be Done.” It will be based on the Lord’s Prayer and will include commentary on how to apply that prayer to you personal Stewardship. Cassia and Sophia Chryssovergis are working on designs.
 - Fr. Mark is working on a letter about the impact of the cancellation of Panegyri on our financial needs, which we hope to send out by the end of June.

Committee Reports:

- Building:
 - Small Hall Renovation:
 - Gus Poneris
 - We are looking at bringing in a couple of people to begin stripping wallpaper in the small hall and maybe putting up a coat of primer and a finish coat, including in the kitchen and bar area. All work would be done by Craig and volunteers and would not be part of the eventual renovation project.

ADJOURNMENT

Call to adjourn: Tom Tsiominas moved to adjourn, Sylvia Rombis seconded, the motion passed.

Closing prayer: Fr. Mark led the closing prayer at 7:17 PM.

Approved as written,



Fr. Mark Emroll
Proistamenos



Gus Lazares
President



Matthew Neuendorf
Secretary