

St. Nicholas Parish Council Meeting Minutes, 04-27-10, Approved

PC Members Present: Rev. Fr. Michael Eaccarino, Nicholas Chagaris, Chris Palaidis, Harry Andropoulos, Karen Markopulos, Chris Angelou, Johanna Kossifidis, Nicholas Manias, Gary Megaloudis, Manuel Pondakos, Charles Samarkos, George Stamas, John Stamas, Jim Stavropoulos, Georgia Tsangaris, Manuel Tsesmelis

PC Members Not Present: Nikitas Manias, Nick Nicholas, Dean Prodromitis

Fr. Michael led us in *Christos Anesti* and then began his meditation. Discussed journey we are embarking on as a family in the restoration of our cathedral. We, the PC members, need to go out and spread the message about changing our lives, putting Christ first; make it clear that “everything belongs to God”.

Finance Report – George Stamas reviewed March, 2010 detailed report, balance sheet through 03-31-10. Behind \$17,080.22 compared to last year, same time. Anastasia will keep a separate schedule, posting everything on the 30th of the month, to keep track of all pledges. Presently our LOC is at \$134,445.07; discussion on paying this down as much as possible. **No motions.** George contacted Renee Katsaras about Audit Committee Report; Renee to contact Anastasia to get needed records.

By-Laws/Records Committee Report – Manuel Tsesmelis -Manuel will become Chairman of this Committee; Nick Matsis resigned for personal reasons. Highlights on By-Laws Attachment:

Semi -annual inventory of the church premises and all the real property owned by the Parish; summary of PC meeting minutes in church publications. **No motions.**

Faith-in Action Committee Report reviewed - **Motion** made and seconded to go to the Parish Assembly to get approval to start a fundraising campaign for the monies for cathedral repairs, \$400,000 approximate estimate. Motion amended to begin fundraising campaign to raise approximately \$ 400,000, for Cathedral repairs and if excess funds, they will go into the endowment for future repairs and maintenance of the cathedral and secondarily to any properties. **Motion passed.** Johanna Kossifidis asked a question about the Hope Street property. She asked if the Philoptochos was using the church tax ID number and was told that Philoptochos has their own Tax ID number. Corporate office of Bank of America has allotted a big budget annually, applications due October 1, 2010, with decisions given in January, 2011 for monies available for renovation and beautification, when not attached to a church. If Philoptochos is financially separate, they could apply for funds. Johanna will get clarification and report back to the PC.

BMG Committee Report- Jim Stavropoulos reviewed report. - George Vouvalis will oversee AC quotes; Committee appointed; Costas Sisois to be in charge of Spanos/Pappas-Theofilos Hall for maintenance needs.

Motion made and seconded to pay the AC Bill, \$325 to DAS AC & Heating, Inc. **Motion passed** unanimously.

Motion made and seconded to allow expenditure of no more than \$600, for filters and belts. **Motion passed** unanimously.

Motion made and seconded that we pay up to \$600 for door repair at Theofilos Hall if the committee could not repair the doors. **Motion passed** unanimously.

Scholarship Committee – Chris Palaidis –reviewed report. **No motions.**

Endowment Committee – Manuel Tsesmelis - reviewed report. Reviewed remarks by attorney, Joel Bronstein and also reiterated purpose of funds. Discussion followed. Chris Angelou is willing to discuss options for the Endowment Fund with George Stamas and Manuel Tsesmelis. Manuel Tsesmelis asked Chris Palaidis to sit on the Endowment Committee; Chris asked for a copy of the Endowment. **No motions.**

Catering/Facility Rental Committee – Georgia Tsangaris – No written report at this time, committee will meet and bring recommendations to PC at next meeting. Charles Samarkos asked about renting the hall to an outside company to do leasing of the hall. Nicholas Manias commented that some churches lease their facilities to a private company; depends on what business model we want to use and what are our goals at this time. Discussion followed in reference to having one caterer and setting up different packages for per person pricing, similar to other facilities.

Motion made and seconded to allow the Kalymnian Society to rent the Spanos/Pappas Community Center/Theofilos Hall for Annual New Year’s Dance, Dec. 31, 2010, on a one year basis, giving St. Nicholas at least \$4,000 from their proceeds; with all expenses paid by the Kalymnian Society. **Motion passed**, unanimously.

Secretary’s Report- Karen Markopulos – PC Minutes of 04/13/10 meeting. **Motion made** and seconded to accept minutes, **motion passed** unanimously.

President's Report - Nick Chagaris –

- **Nick read a Letter from Plato Academy** requesting if St. Nicholas is interested in leasing out available space or selling a portion of our property. Plato Academy is seeking a location in Pinellas County to accommodate their two newly approved charter schools scheduled to open this summer and are willing to accommodate us by sharing facilities for after school religious instruction and/or Sunday School. Contact person is Steve Christopoulos, Principal; Discussion followed. Recommendation for John Stamas to call Mr. Christopoulos to see what they are offering and report back to PC.
- Nick asked PC members to send names for possible OCLM Chairman; very important committee, and if a chair person could not be found, the PC will be the chair and we will spend the first part of each PC meeting planning and organizing for this important committee.

Old Business:

- **Nick reviewed the Legal Committee Report**, in reference to Mr. Daskal's will. Charles Samarkos had reviewed the will and feels that Mr. Daskal's intent is not clearly stated in his will; in reference that interest received from the monies go to widows and orphans (Philoptochos), the church and the Greek School in specified amounts that added up to fifty percent of the total. Charles feels the simplest approach would be to give the money to the church, the Greek School and for widows and orphans (the Philoptochos). Discussion followed. Charles Samarkos will call the drafter of the will, find out what the intent was and report back to the PC.
- **Office Server Report** – The router was replaced as it was found defective and this increased the internet connection speed. Gerald (Dean's employee) recommended that we need a new server; Fr. Michael reported that we have the possibility of getting a server donated. George Stamas reviewed work that Symmetric already completed. **No motion** needed at this time, as PC had already approved up to \$2,000 at a previous PC meeting; Karen to contact Anastasia to pay Symmetric \$747.50 for work done on the system.

New Business:

- **Parish Assembly Expectations - Nick Chagaris** – Wants all PC members to be there and be Christian. Discussion followed.
- **Orthodox Christian Network – “Share the Light Sunday”** – **Nicholas Manias** had to leave; tabled for next meeting so that Nicholas could report his recommendations for OCN. George Stamas reported that our budget has \$1,000 for charities this year.
- **Greek or English Homily in First Liturgy – Fr. Michael** – Lena has received a lot of angry phone calls in regards to Fr. Michael's Greek homily this past Sunday; parishioners did not get the message. Fr. Michael explained that Orthodox homilies are to be written down, based on the Fathers of the Church, they are not for entertainment. Metropolitan Alexios made remarks recently, as did Archbishop Demetrios, in agreement with Fr. Michael's proposal to have First Divine Liturgy in English at 8:00am; Orthros/Youth Catechism/Adult Catechism at 9:30am; with the Second Divine Liturgy in Greek at 10:30am. Brochures from the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta, Diakonia Center were passed out, on becoming a “Guardian Angel”, donating \$500 annually for 5 years.
- **Position Descriptions (PC President, PC Vice President, PC Treasurer, PC Secretary, Ministry Leader, PC Liaison) – Manuel Pondakos** – quick update for these positions; asked PC members to review, make additions and send to him so that he can come to the next PC meeting with a completed copy for these positions and go on to other aspects of the manual.

Fr. Michael gave the closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Markopoulos

***** Minutes were approved as read at the PC Meeting on 05/18/10.**