

**Parish Council Meeting**  
**October 3, 2022**  
**Remote Zoom Meeting (recorded)**

**Roll Call**

**Parish Council Members Present:** Christine Dardaris, Donna Dimitri, Sergio Georgi, Davit Jishkariani, Nilda Salavachi, Zachary Smith, Reem Tarazi

**Clergy:** none

**Sunday School:** none

**Auxiliary Members Present:** Bill Bortner, Linda Croke, Linda Notskas, Steve Coraluzzi

**Meeting opened with prayer at 7:33 pm**

**Secretary's Report (reported by Reem Tarazi)**

Reem presented the minutes from the September 2022 meeting. Davit moved to accept minutes as presented and Sergio seconded. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report (reported by Zachary Smith)**

At end September 2022:

- Checking account down to ~\$11,000 because of large payment for roof
- Market investment account down to ~\$231,000 due to market activity
- 60 pledges received thus far (4 additional); ~\$40,000 promised and ~75% received
- Received couple additional icon payments
- Notable income or expenses
  - Roof
  - Received supplemental payment from Utica, who is covering increased cost of AC
  - ~\$7,000 in donations came in for roof specifically
  - Substitute priest expenses look high because payment never made for July
- CC statement presented for review (bank statement will be sent when available)

Reem moved to accept the September report, seconded by Nilda. Zach abstained. Motion passed.

- Zach initiated discussion about insurance
  - We can renew plan with Goodville Mutual for ~\$21,000 for year
  - Zach presented option with Erie for ~\$18,200, reduced to ~\$16,500 if we paid in full for \$50,000 in coverage for personal property, which we can increase for a small amount; any sexual abuse claim is *not* occurrence-based, but is claims-based
  - Zach proposed we move to Erie but increase property coverage to \$200,000
  - Following discussion, council in favor of moving policy to Erie with a \$200,000 property coverage for ~\$18,500 which we can reduce with annual payment
  - Christine shared concern about sexual abuse coverage not being occurrence based and others agreed; Zach will inform council about final decision about sexual abuse coverage
  - IF we proceed with Erie, Zach made motion to pay annually, Christine seconded. Nilda opposed. All others in favor.

### **Clergy Report (reported by Donna Dimitri)**

- Information shared about funeral service for +Jonathan Rhodes
- Fr. Dennis decided to proceed with baptism scheduled for next Saturday
- Following discussion, council decided on making a \$1000 donation from the parish to Fr. Dennis
- Council members will send an edible basket to his home; Linda N will take care of this on behalf of council
- Christine will send flowers on behalf of council to church for funeral

### **Chairperson Report (reported by Donna Dimitri)**

- Sidewalk in front of the church needs to be repaired. Estimate \$5300.00 cash (was \$5700.00) to repair sidewalk, pointing around the building, caulk around the steps, repair steps in back by grey double door.
- Hall A/C unit, Phoenix Home Services – received an updated proposal from Jim. \$39,324.00. We gave them a \$15,654.21 deposit last year. The difference in price between the Carrier and Trane was about \$1000.00, the lead time for carrier is 6 months. The Trane unit is 12-14 weeks. I advised Jim to order the Trane unit. He will let me know when the unit arrives. We received a check from Utica insurance for \$4,165.04 for the difference in the price of the A/C unit. The insurance company will pay the balance of the install upon completion of the job.
- Roof Update. The roof was installed over a 3-day period, Sept 8-10. Big Joe's also installed the Y downspout to redirect the water coming from the main roof to the ground. They did a great job. There is a leak from the lower roof on the north side of the church middle window and the leak on the south side middle window in the church hall. Contacted Big Joe today and he will be out to take a look. We have received \$6,900.00 in donations to date.
- Information about Father Kai was forwarded to Father Nikodhim. We should hear something this week.

### **Vice Chairperson Report (reported by Sergio Georgi)**

- Livestream going well; 125 subscribers and viewing increasing
- Verizon – much more data available than what we are using
- Suggested replacing the light in front of Iconostas with dimmer light to improve lighting issues on video
- Sergio emailed copy of constitution and bylaws of archdiocese

### **Sunday School Report (sent via email by Fiori Papa prior to meeting)**

- Thanksgiving show scheduled for Nov 6<sup>th</sup>
  - Perhaps coffee hour can be Thanksgiving “feast”
  - Need electric cords to plug in keyboards
  - May need music to accompany children – is there some way to do this?
  - Do we have microphones?
  - If need flags etc for Thanksgiving Show, do we have at church or how can purchases be made?
  - Council will ask about possibly moving this event to Nov 20
- To add to website for Sunday School

- Lessons
  - Learning Lord's Prayer in English, Albanian, Greek (\*Please post under each language so parents could go there and practice with kids until the show).
  - Fiori will forward other lesson plans to be posted.
- Activities
  - \*Please post September Ice Skating outing pictures
  - \*Please post 'Fall dress up party' date TBD and include in messenger
    - Discussed changing to "Fall Costume Party"
  - Thanksgiving show will be on Nov 6th (Council will ask about moving this event to Nov 20)
- In the beginning of the school year Fiori brought plenty of snacks for Sunday school and there are supplies from last year
- Need ideas to get our teenagers more excited to participate going forward. We also need a teacher for middle/high school students
- Main goal for Oct 9 Sunday school: ALL the kids to learn the Lord's Prayer in English and Albanian by heart

### **Sergio and Donna will respond to Fiori's questions**

#### **Old Business**

- Social Media Subcommittee
  - No update
- Church clean-up date 10/22/22
  - Encourage Sunday school students to help out and older students that need community service
  - Sergio volunteered to be in charge of painting office; Donna suggested this could be a separate project for another day
- Semi-annual parish meeting scheduled for 10/23/22
  - Reem cannot attend; Zach can attend in person
- Update on last week's Archdiocesan Assembly presented by those who attended
  - Everyone had a good experience
  - Discussion about separating from OCA did not get much attention at this meeting
  - Fr. Nikodhim is our bishop-elect!
  - Worcester church petitioned for extra votes; did not receive necessary support
  - Donna re-elected Treasurer
  - Next year's meeting will be in Boston
  - Synopsis will be presented to parish at semi-annual meeting

#### **New Business**

- Reem presented re: opportunities to support sponsorship for Fall and Holiday drives through St. Christopher's Hospital for Children's Committee to Benefit Children
  - Donna suggested we have older Sunday school students take initiative to collect money and coordinate the sponsorship of a family for Christmas.
  - Davit proposed that council would support the program(s) annually up to \$500. Seconded by Christine. Motion passed.

- Will start messaging to parish and collecting funds on Oct 30.
  - Reem will coordinate with Fiori involvement of teenagers in church for this initiative.
- Fall Costume Party – oct 30
- Fr. Emmanuel can no longer serve oct 16 and 30; Donna asked Fr. Andrew to serve those dates and is proceeding in getting necessary permission
- 91<sup>st</sup> Nameday celebration of the church is on Nov 13 – will proceed as usual
  - Nilda suggested asking Fr. Nikodhim to join; Donna will extend invitation
- Christmas Liturgy
  - December 25 is on Sunday
  - If full-time priest, he will decide; if not, council can weigh in
- Ladies Christmas outing
  - Nilda will proceed in planning an outing; council only needs to approve if there is a request for financial support

**Next Parish Council monthly meeting scheduled for November 14 at 7:30pm.**

**The meeting adjourned with prayer at 9:35 pm**

Respectfully submitted,  
Reem Tarazi