

## **Parish Council Meeting**

**March 11, 2025**

**Remote Zoom Meeting (recorded)**

### **Roll Call**

**Parish Council Members Present:** Donna Dimitri, Sergio Georgi, Reem Tarazi, Anila Vero, Zachary Smith

**Parish Council Members Absent:** Christine Dardaris, Davit Jishkariani

**Clergy:** Fr. Kai (joined 7:55pm)

**Auxiliary Members Present:** Steve Coraluzzi, Linda Croke, Peter Ghicondey, Nilda Salvachi, Tatiana Greendlinger

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

Reem presented minutes from the February 2025 meeting. No discussion. Zach moved to accept minutes as presented and seconded by Sergio. Motion passed.

### **Treasurer's Report (presented by Zachary Smith)**

At end February 2025:

- Checking account up to ~\$69,000
- Investment account at ~\$270,700; no transfer made yet as approved last meeting
- Up to 74 pledges (this accounts for maintenance of pledges from last year) for \$56,831, received ~\$8700 thus far
- Zach will send contribution statements
- Icon Auction: \$18,415 in bids (one additional bid this month), ~\$15,300 in payments thus far
- Notable Income
  - Candles and collections slightly behind last year
  - Pledge payments slightly behind, but icon payments ahead of last year
  - \$4500 donation for window project this month; close to covering total cost of project
  - Women's Day Dance income of ~\$2000 – only includes funds collected in February, so total is more
  - \$76 from Sunday School hot dog sale
  - Miscellaneous donations - \$280 from Soup-er Bowl fundraiser
    - Donna mentioned there was a square payment donation to count
    - Donna suggested adding another \$100 to the \$400 total raised to donate \$500 to Broad Street Ministries. Reem made motion to add \$100 from parish to donation, seconded by Serge. No discussion. Motion passed.
- Notable Expenses
  - Priest Salary
  - Gas bill
  - 2 fair share contributions paid
- Solidly in black for this month
- **The transfer from checking to investment account approved last month was not done until early March, so will see in March report**
- Bank and CC statements available for review

Sergio moved to accept the February report, seconded by Anila. No further discussion. Zach abstained. Motion passed.

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

1. Palms for Palm Sunday have been ordered
2. Fiori Papa will coordinate the purchase of flowers for the Epitaphion
3. St. George Trumbull is celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. They are putting together a 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Journal and are soliciting ads. Sergio made motion to purchase \$250 ad to support St. George's in Trumbull, seconded by Anila. No discussion. No opposition or abstention. Motion passed.
4. Last Wednesday when we had the severe rainstorm the three of north side roofs leaked. We have contacted Joe Ritchie, the contractor who did work on the flashing last year. He will be out to inspect.

#### **Fr Kai joined meeting at 7:55pm. Offered opening prayer.**

#### **Clergy report (presented by Fr. Kai)**

1. Bishop Nikodhim's visit went well; good discussion and shared plans; Bishop feels supported by our parish
2. Making booklet with prayers for Holy Week services with some adjustments to meet needs of our parish; working with Vladimir on this
3. Fr. Kai encouraged us to continue to work together and be open in communication with each other. He always welcomes feedback so that he can meet needs of the parish and work toward goals of attracting new parishioners and beautifying services.

#### **Vice-Chairperson Report (reported by Sergio Giorgi)**

1. Website updated with Lent and Pascha events and services
2. Livestream continues to do well
3. Fr. Kai expressed concern re: quality of some of the audio; will look into it this next Sunday

Tatiana thanked parish council for the wonderful quality of the live stream

#### **Old Business**

1. Bishop visit
  - a. In addition to Fr. Kai's update Donna shared summary and some thoughts about Bishop's visit, which went really well with nice attendance. Fr. Kai suggests we formally thank Fr. Nick for participating and directing his parishioners to our parish. Donna and Reem will follow-up.
2. Lent and Pascha plans
  - a. Services included in messenger and website
  - b. Fr. Kai is working on letter, which will be sent out with request for donations
  - c. Flowers and palms covered
  - d. Need to determine if we need more dye
  - e. Lazarus Saturday
    - i. Ilirjan is coordinating activities
    - ii. Fr. Kai will do liturgy for children outside of altar

- iii. Steve agreed to help
- iv. Will make mesh and order pizza
- f. Pancake breakfast – Steve and Peter will hopefully help with that

3. Semi-annual meeting
  - a. Scheduled for March 23 – Zach unable to attend
  - b. Donna will send out last meeting minutes and the agenda, which will include election of delegates for Archdiocese Assembly in September and OCA All-American Council in July
4. Women's Day Dance took place on March 8
  - a. Sergio and Nilda shared about the event and its success - about 100 people participated; Donna recognized Sergio, Linda, Anila, and Michele for their contributions to the event and all those who attended; Nilda recognized those that helped with food and kitchen
  - b. Payment process was much easier this year with most paying online
  - c. Ticket sales \$8230 and received food donations; church netted **\$7034** following expenses/fees
    - i. Disputed \$425 payment resolved
  - d. Began discussion about having a similar event in Fall

### **New business**

1. Background checks –
  - a. Council members received Donna's email re: this but no follow up from archdiocese to complete anything; do not have to worry about credit check
2. Vespereal Liturgy on Sunday at 4:00 at Sts. Peter and Paul
3. Linda C will be away for 3 weeks starting 3/23 and asked for people to step up to help as needed in church

**Next Parish Council monthly meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 8 at 7:30pm.**

**The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm with a closing prayer.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Reem Tarazi