

HOLY TAXIARHAI and ST. HARALAMBOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES FOR December 16, 2025

Commencement of Meeting: The Parish Council meeting began at 7:00pm with an opening prayer led by Father Tilemahos. Tom Sikoral acted as Chairman of the meeting. Nick Megremis acted as Recording Secretary.

Attendees: N Megremis, T Rizos, G Houpis, T Sikoral, L Psychogios, J Karnezis, E Kiriazopoulos, A Andrews, G Coologeorgen, T Bournias, A Demeros, A Koutsikos, D Loomos, B Bozikis, G Giolas, T Zavos, A Calabrese

Absent: C Haralampoulou, G Tziavaras, E Dimoutsikos, P Giannopoulos

Non Voting Attendees: Anna Prekas

PARISH OPERATIONS

Minutes (Led by N Megremis)

November Meeting Minutes were distributed to the Parish Council prior to the meeting by N Megremis.

- **Motion to approve November 2025 Meeting Minutes.**
L Psychogios/2nd D Loomos. Vote: 10-0-1. Passed Unanimously.

Treasurer's Report (T Zavos)

Updated Financial Reports were distributed before the meeting by T Zavos.

Net Operating Income (REVENUE less EXPENSES) currently \$155,000 favorable to planned YTD budget (including SCHOOL). End of year estimate should be around \$120,000 favorable.

The School picked up some additional students (late enrollments) plus payments came through earlier which will reflect in the 2025 financials.

Would like to see Facility Usage income increase in 2026.

Father Dean's gift will be charged in 2025.

Budget remains in very good position.

- **Motion to accept November 2025 Financials.**
A Demeros/2nd A Calabrese. Vote: 14-0-1. Passed Unanimously.

Facility Planning Committee (Led by T Bournias)

- The following was approved at the last General Assembly meeting and the Committee will start work on these in 2026:
 - \$25,000 will be requested at the General Assembly from the Condes Fund for classroom updates.
 - Another \$20,000 will be requested for fencing around the property, but committee is also looking into securing grants for this.
 - Another \$15,000 will be requested for the decorating committee to use to beautify the Church and Building.
 - A new AC condenser will be needed soon, which will cost about \$17,000.
 - Choir Loft will need updating as well, which will cost about \$5000
- A large screen TV will also be purchased with money from an approved grant.
- It was suggested that with any leftover funds, the Committee look into purchasing a video conference system.
- Grants will continue to be applied for.

Iconography (Led by T Bournias)

- The Metropolis office has approved moving forward with our plans, but our request must first go through the BPA Committee review, before Parish Council and General Assembly approval.

Inreach (Led by Father T)

- Father Alexis will be coming to speak during our Feast Day.
- There will be other speakers coming in March and throughout Great Lent.
- Dr. Roxanne Love will be coming to speak for our Woman's Retreat.

Outreach (Led by G Giolas)

- Container to Madagascar was packed and left for delivery on Thursday, November 13. Estimated arrival date is February 27th.
- Preparing for Night to Shine in February. So far we have 62 guests signed up. We will need at least 100 volunteers, and possibly more if guest continue to sign up.
- Coat Drive collected 92 coats for the needy and were delivered on Dec 15.
- Meals on Wheels received about \$4K in donations from Giving Tuesday.

Stewardship (Led by N Megremis)

- As of December 15 2025, 711 Stewards pledged about \$513,000 (93% of goal of \$550K) and have given roughly \$493,00 to date.
- For comparison, at this time last year we had 695 Stewards pledging \$4878,000 and given \$466,000.
- Current Median amount is \$500 and the average pledge is about \$720.

Youth/Athletics (Led by G Coologeorgen and D Loomos)

- Basketball season is in full swing.
- Hosted the Thanksgiving Tournament, and it went very well.
- Playoffs will be at the end of January.
- GOYA and Family Nights have been busy.
- The Youth will be joining the Kafenio this coming week.
- Each Youth meeting starts in Church with Father T.

Building and Grounds (Led by T Sikoral)

- Vents in the Church building need updating/cleaning
- Must also fix leaks and water damage on the Church walls before Iconography starts.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE PARISH

- Father Tilemahos met with Father Milos, who is the candidate presented to our Church for our second priest. Our Parish will be responsible for the legal fees associated with securing Father Milos's work Visa. Still waiting for official letter from the Archdiocese.
- The Men's Thanksgiving social event was a great success. There were roughly 150-160 participants on that Wednesday night, and generated a gross revenue of about \$46K. After expenses, the net proceeds will be about \$33K.
- National Giving Day outreach on December 2 was successful and all proceeds will go to Meals on Wheels. Total donations should pay for food expenses for the next 2 years.
- The 75th Anniversary planning committee has secured a venue for the dinner, but is also considering hiring an event planner to help with the buildup to the event.
 - Committee has presented a tiered sponsorship, with recognition at other 2026 events.
 - The Commemorative Album donations will be as follows, and printing will cost about \$30,000 for 450 books:
 - Half Page: \$250
 - Full Page: \$500
 - 2 Page: \$750
- Instead of an Ad Book at the anniversary dinner, the notion is to have one at the Apokriatiko Dinner on February 15th that is being planned by PTAs of the schools.
- **Motion to approve spending \$30,000 for Album printing, that will be partially covered by donations from reflection/memorial pages sold.**
A Demeros/2nd A Koutsikos. Vote: 16-0-0. Passed Unanimously.
- It was suggested that group text messages should be sent out for any/all committee meetings.
- Another General Assembly needs to be planned for early 2026 to discuss new Iconography approval and for a 2025 wrap up. It was proposed and accepted that the meeting dates will (tentatively) be February 22nd with a backup date of March 1st.

- Reminder that Parish Council Elections are this Sunday (12/21) after service.
- It was also suggested that we add a “Sponsor a Project” section in our weekly bulletins and in the quarterly Visions.
- Father T suggests we apply for more grants from the Hellenic Foundation.
- **Motion to adjourn meeting.**
T Zavos/2nd L Psychogios. Vote: 15-0-0. Pass Unanimously

Closing Prayers led by Father Tilemahos at 9:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by Nick Megremis, Recording Secretary