

HOLY TAXIARHAI and ST. HARALAMBOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH  
PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES FOR JUNE 20, 2023

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

**Attendees:** G Bepis, T Rizos, J Karnezis, E Kiriazopoulos, T Kanelos, E Dimoutsikos, P Giannopoulos, G Houpis, T Zavos, T Bournias, T Sikoral, M Pontikes, A Demeros, A Andrews, G Coologeorgen, D Loomos, B Bozikis

Anna Prekas, Joe Kyzick, Despina Calebrese and Louie Pyschogios also present as a non-voting participants.

**Absent:** K Ioannou, N Megremis, A Koutsikos, T Karabatsos

PARISH OPERATIONS

**School Report (Led by T Zavos)**

Tom Zavos spoke about special guests of the school board who are with us today to speak regarding expanding the schools.

Joe Kyzick daughter Julia is in the Pre K program and she has concerns that the public schools and how they are pushing dangerous ideologies to children. They are pleased with the program and would like and strongly urge to consider expanding the schools

Louie Pyschogios spoke and knows there are hurdles in starting the schools - but encourages the PC to take a steps forward as they are not looking for something spectacular but to merely expand the dayschool.

Despina Calebrese has 2 children in the day school program. She understands that there is obstacles. She talked about VCS and how it has transformed into church camp. It can be done.

Parents commented that it would not matter if it would be accredited or not.

Tom Kanelos addressed that we do not fear with going forward and we do need a plan. Run into an imposition from the metropolis since the high school is being built.

Parent said that they have reached out to other churches and they are willing to share their curriculum with us.

The parents are asking for our blessings to do the right thing.

Despina believes that 7 families for this coming year would be interested in a first grade classroom.

Father Dean stated that it will take active participation from the parents to make this happen not just from the school board and PC.

Parents also stated how St. Johns has a waiting list

George Coologeorgen – spoke on how his kids were here in Pre K and how they moved because there was not in room to move on

Tom Sikoral ended with telling parents that they will discuss with school board and get back to the parents.

## **Minutes**

- **Motion to approve the May Minutes.**

- E Dimoutsikos/2nd E Kiriazopoulos. **Vote: 11-0-6. Passed Unanimously.**

### **Treasurer's Report (Led by T Zavos)**

- 2022 Financial distributed before the meeting.
- **Motion to accept Year End 2022 Financials.**
  - G Coologeorgen/2nd E Dimoutsikos. **Vote: 7-4-5. Passed.**

### **Inreach/Outreach (Led by T Kanelos)**

- Bessie's Table still doing well.
- Speakers for the fall dates will be announced shortly.
- Outreach, Meals on Wheels and Project Hope still going strong.

### **Athletics (Led by D Loomos)**

- Junior Olympics went well. St. Haralambos has 123 kids participate. All were members of the church.

### **Facility Planning Committee (Led by T Bournias)**

- Project for the 4th classroom is on pause and moved down in their agenda.
- Working on combining the classrooms into 4 and widening the hallway and working on the kitchen.
- Also 2 classrooms will be added in the West Lobby.

### **Building and Grounds (Led by M Pontikes)**

- Parking lot will be patched before the Festival.
- HVAC system still needs to be updated. Still getting bids and plans for this.

### **Stewardship (Led by T Zavos)**

- Tom gave updated numbers per communication prior to the meeting.

### **FOR THE GOOD OF THE PARISH**

- P Giannopoulos presented three different options for plaques. Final decision not made.
- Look to advertise the prices for quarterly ads in the Visions.
  
- **Motion to adjourn meeting.**
  - E Kiriazopoulos/2nd T Rizzos. **Vote: 16-0-0. Pass Unanimously**

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

Respectfully submitted by George Cooloageorgen, Recording Secretary