

HOLY TAXIARHAI and ST. HARALAMBOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES FOR September 15, 2026

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, J Karnezis, E Kiriazopoulos, C Haralampouloulos, J Ksiazek, D Loomos, L Psychogios, A Andrews, G Coologeorgen, T Bournias, T Zavos, A Calabrese, G Tziavaras,

Absent: B Bozikis, A Koutsikos, G Giolas, E Dimoutsikos, A Demeros

Non Voting Attendees: Fr. Elias, Anna Prekas

PARISH OPERATIONS

August Minutes were provided via email to everyone before the meeting by Nick Megremis

- **Motion to approve August Minutes.**
L Psychogios/2nd E Kiriazopoulos. Vote: 11-0-0. Passed Unanimously.

Treasurer's Report (Led by T Zavos)

Financial info was provided via email before the meeting by Tom Zavos.

- **Motion to accept August Financials.**
L Psychogios/2nd J Ksiazek. Vote: 12-0-3. Passed Unanimously.

- It was suggested to getting an appraisal for the Church, building and iconography for insurance purposes.
- Open Office Administrator and Bookkeeper positions have been posted online and we already have some applicants.
- Budget Meeting scheduled for Oct 6.

Religious Ed (Led by Fr. T)

- A womans retreat is planned for this coming Saturday, open to all.
- First day of Sunday school started September 13.

Outreach Committee (Led by G Giolas)

- The planned container to Kenya has been scraped in favor for an organization in India instead.
- Supply drive with the Wings program starting this coming Friday.
- Coat Drive also starting soon.
- Also planning to provide a Thanksgiving lunch at the Niles Senior Center like in past years.

Youth and Athletics (Led by G Coologeorgen and D Loomis)

- Kicked off the new school year with a welcome BBQs for Family Night, GOYA and YAL.
- Practices for GOAL Basketball will start in September, with games starting in mid November.

Facility Planning Committee (Led by T Bournias)

- Completed the installation of blinds in the east lobby.
- The water heater in the kitchen broke the week of the fest and had to be replaced.

- We hired a painter (Mike Maris) to paint the north and south walls and their adjacent arches as well as the back wall and choir loft balcony. He will also remove the sconces and cap their electrical connections on these north and south walls. He will also update our Narthex and cry-room including painting the walls and updating the lighting. The total cost is \$22,000. This work will commence in November. The decor committee will select the colors..
- Small damage in they gym will be addressed soon.

Iconography (Led by T Bournias)

- New brochures that discuss icon sponsorship are now available both in hard copy and online.
- Out of 22 full-size Saint icons, 12 are already sponsored.
- Out of 35 medallion-size Saint icons, 4 are already sponsored.
- Total sponsorship of iconography so far is \$265,000

Stewardship (Led by N Megremis)

- As of September 15, 2026, 631 Stewards pledged about \$510,000 and have given roughly \$440,000 to date. This translates to an average amount of \$808 per Steward Family, and a Median amount of \$500. We are still about \$60,000 short of our goal for the year.
- For comparison, last year at this time we had 611 Stewards pledging \$460,000 and giving \$398,000.
- Stewardship Luncheon planned for January 31st, with food provided by Platiea.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE PARISH

- An announcement regarding the grant we applied for should come out soon.
- It was suggested we consider instituting a 403(b) retirement plan for our clergy, office staff, and teachers. Will be researched.

- 75th Anniversary Updates: GOYA/YAL reunion party planned for 10/2 and the Gala still planned for 10/18. There are currently 373 people reserved for the Gala so far.
- Should explore removing camera/YouTube footage after a certain period of time for privacy concerns.
- Our annual golf outing is planned for this coming Thursday.
- Exploring the creation of our own Dance Troop. Many children and adults have expressed an interest.

- **Motion to adjourn meeting.**

G Coologeorgen/2nd L Psyhogios. Vote 18-0-0. Pass Unanimously

Closing Prayers led by Father Tilemahos at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted by Nick Megremis, Recording Secretary