



SAINT SOPHIA GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

THE REVEREND STEVEN P. ZORZOS, D.MIN., PROTOPRESBYTER & PRESIDING PRIEST
THE REVEREND DIMITRIOS J. LEE, M.DIV., PRESBYTER & ASSISTANT PRIEST



MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 3, 2019 PARISH ASSEMBLY

MEMBERS PRESENT: Janice Calomiris
Diane Cerniglia
Christopher Chaconas
Fotini Economides
Cassandra Johnson
Andrew Ladas
Sotiris (Ted) Planzos
Tina Serbanos

MEMBERS ABSENT: Peter Antonoplos
Peter Koutsandreas
Chris Mallus
Catherine Sarlis
John Xanthos
Nick Zuppas

CLERGY PRESENT: Reverend Steven Zorzos, D. Min.
Reverend Dimitrios Lee, M. Div.

1. **Opening.** Ms. Calomiris called the meeting to order at 12:50 PM. Father Steve opened the meeting with a prayer.
2. **Election of Chairperson.** Ms. Calomiris was nominated and elected to serve as chairperson. Ms. Calomiris congratulated the Philoptochos Society on the occasion of their nameday.
3. **Minutes.** The minutes from the June 30, 2019 meeting were approved.
4. **Treasurer's Report.** Mr. Chaconas reported the following:
 - a. The vacancy of two of the three Garfield properties for major portions of the year resulted in a budget variance of \$73,300. Leases on two of the houses expire in 2020.
 - b. A one-time memorial donation in the amount of \$50,000 was received.
 - c. A \$29,000 increase in staff compensation is due to the addition of Victor Berio as Sexton and the restructuring of Oscar Montecinos's salary.



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- d. Utilities are over budget in 2019 by \$34,000; however, we expect a significant decrease in 2020 as HVAC software/hardware controls are installed by the end of the year.
- e. Health care costs for staff are expected to increase by 20%.
- f. The Budget include \$40,000 in expenses to prepare the Garfield properties for rental including new appliances, painting, and repairs.

Mr. Chaconas added that the projected 2020 loss is \$295,853 and further noted a two-year (2018-2020) downward trend in revenue and upward trend in expenses. The 2020 proposed budget was approved.

Ms. Debbie Charles asked if youth ministry funds were allocated for specific events. The answer is that funds can be used for any youth event.

5. Committee Reports.

- a. **Membership.** Father Steve reported that as of October 31, 2019, 615 stewards have renewed their membership which represents 87% of last year's total. Father Steve anticipates a strong November and December.
- b. **Garfield Properties.** Ms. Calomiris reported that we are working diligently to rent the properties in a timely manner. The three properties combined are worth an estimated \$5-6 million.
- c. **Golf Tournament.** Ms. Cerniglia reported that the ninth annual golf tournament raised \$9,000 with 88 golfers and 110 total attendees including dinner guests. The 2020 tournament is scheduled for June 20 and will feature special events for the 10th anniversary.
- d. **Cathedral Ministries.** Ms. Calomiris called attention to the October 18, 2019 Parish Council Report to the Community which featured information about the various ministries. One of the main goals is to promote cross-ministry collaboration. The Cathedral ministries consist of the following: Sunday School, Greek Language and Culture Program, Junior Orthodox Youth (JOY/Little Angels), Greek Orthodox Youth of America (GOYA), Oratorical Club, Campus Ministry, Young Adult League (YAL), Philoptochos Society, Men's Symposium, Byzantine Choir/Office of Music Arts, Bible Study, Ministry of Outreach and Evangelism (MOE), and Bookstore.

6. Facilities and Preserve and Protect Campaign.

- Ms. Calomiris reported the following:
- a. The goal was \$2.4 million; \$3.6 million has been pledged. Of that amount, \$2.4 million has been collected, with \$1.8 million in expenses.
 - b. Roof repairs to the Cathedral are complete; EAC building roof is next.
 - c. Limestone remediation to the Cathedral is complete; EAC building is next.
 - d. Colored glass work is in progress.
 - e. Electrical, plumbing, and mechanical work has been completed.



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- f. Work continues on leveling the landing areas on the front steps.
- g. The kitchen will close in January, 2020 for upgrading equipment and other improvements.
- h. Bathroom designs are in progress.
- i. Plans for a new handicapped ramp are in progress.

7. Old Business.

- a. Ms. Calomiris encouraged participation at Taverna Night and thanked all Veterans.
- b. Mr. Peter Roushakes asked the status of the priests' picture. Ms. Calomiris replied that the plan is to display the pictures in FJ Hall after painting and renovations in the hall are complete. Ms. Johnson added that the pictures are framed and are ready to be displayed with accompanying biographical plaques.
- c. Ms. Fada Chaconas thanked Ms. Calomiris for her attention to detail with the Preserve and Protect Campaign. Ms. Calomiris in turn thanked the Parish Council, Clergy, and Staff for their hard work in ensuring the success of the campaign.

8. New Business.

- a. Father Steve announced the convening of the Assembly of 55 Bishops in Washington D.C. from May 2-5, 2020.
- b. Father Steve announced the visit of Patriarch Bartholomew to Washington, D.C. from May 12-14, 2020.

9. Nomination and Election of 2019 Audit Committee. No nominations were offered. Ms. Elaine Joost moved that Mr. Chaconas find three people to serve on the committee; seconded by Ms. Fayda Chaconas and passed unanimously.

10. Nomination and Election of 2019 Election Committee. The following were nominated and accepted:

- Peter Roushakes nominated by Peter Sarrow
- Peter Sarro nominated by Peter Panagiotopoulos
- Electra Anest nominated by Diane Cerniglia

11. Nomination of Candidates for 2020-2021 Parish Council. Ms. Calomiris thanked Ms. Sarlis and Ms. Serbanos for their service to the Parish Council. The following were nominated and accepted:

- Fotini Economides nominated by Stracie Maniatis
- Andrew Ladas nominated by Ted Planzos
- Cassandra Johnson nominated by Mary Dimos
- Joanna Pedas nominated by Pat Gogos



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- John Xanthos nominated by Peter Panagiotopoulos
- Amanda Lockhart nominated by Diane Cerniglia

Ms. Calomiris reminded all nominees of the mandatory seminar at 6:30, November 14, at Saints Constantine and Helen Church.

Adjournment. With all business completed, the meeting was adjourned at 1:45 PM. Father Dimitri gave the closing prayer.

Reverend Steven Zorzos, D. Min.

Janice Calomiris, President

Diane Cerniglia, Secretary