11/14/2018

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

St. Anthony the Great Orthodox Church

Members in Attendance: Scott Smith, Felipe Arroyo, Aaron Blanco, Elaine Jenkins, Helen Kaye, Paul White, Nick Brown, Laura Farris, Taylor Troy

The meeting opened with Fr. Leo leading the Council in “O Heavenly King.”

Elections to fill vacant roles were held.

1. Nick Brown was elected and chosen as Treasurer, all in favor.
2. Scott Smith was elected and chosen as Secretary, all in favor.
3. Laura Farris was elected and chosen as Vice Warden, all in favor.
4. Aaron Blanco was elected and chosen as Warden, all in favor.

Minutes from the October meeting were reviewed. Helen Kaye motioned to accept the minutes as presented. Nick Brown seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The October financial report was presented by Taylor Troy.

1. Donations to the icon project were high for October, including a one-time donation from outside the church.
2. Without icon project donations, income from tithes still exceeded expenses by a small but significant margin.
3. The USAA index fund quarterly report came in with a rate of return of approximately 7%. Utilities look high but usage was typical for this time of year and rates have increased.
4. Current yearly earnings are doing well against retained earnings from previous years, partially due to the icon project.

Father Leo gave the priest’s report.

1. As of Sunday we have four catechumens: Nichelle; Dylon; Samuel and Tania.
2. Prayers requested for Vera Panacenko, who is under the weather.
3. Michael’s hip replacement has been delayed.
4. Father Leo’s sister-in-law is doing better.
5. The presentation given by Fr. Brendan was a success, and we had visitors from St. Ephraim and from Sts. Joachim and Anna. As of 11/14, Part I of Father Brendan’s talk has 597 views on Facebook, and Part II has 53 views.
6. St. Sophia will be hosting Sunday of Orthodoxy.
7. Fr. Valentine from the Romanian mission wants to bring parishioners for our visit from the Archbishop.
8. Father Leo is trying to coordinate with Father Gerasim on November 27 to get a deacon for the Hierarchical Liturgy.
9. Special thanks to Reader Alexander for hosting the choir workshop.
10. Thanks also to choir members who attended the workshop.
11. Vesperal Liturgy for the entry of the Theotokos; no daily Vespers on the 21st.

Sisterhood Report

1. The account has about $900 in it.
2. Collections at coffee hour have been very low.
3. The tamale-making session is on Saturday the 17th.

Food Bank Report

1. Paul has recently learned that the San Antonio Food Bank has a benefits assistance program.
2. It was suggested that the information about the program be made available at the church along with the flyer for the Christian Assistance Ministry.

Icon Project

1. Panos says that the Metropolitan asked him to stay later on his trip.
2. Panos wants to leave Athens on Dec 1 and return on Dec 16 or leave Athens Nov 24 and return Dec 5.
3. Tickets have not been issued yet, so we will figure out the best flights.
4. Helen Kaye motioned to reimburse Don and Elaine Jenkins to pay for the international flight, since the church doesn’t have a credit card. Scott Smith seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

There were no updates from the Brotherhood.

Loan Update

1. The loan documents were signed earlier this day at the title company.
2. RBFCU still needs to approve the loan before funds are dispersed.
3. The principal amount is $230,000, and the interest rate is 5.25%.
4. After closing costs, the amount the church will receive is $224,000.
5. The monthly payment will be $1547.32 per month over 20 years.

Building Committee

1. With the loan coming soon, the building committee can start very soon on the parking lot, the window restoration, and the roof repair.
2. We need pest control to come check if animals have been nesting in the ceiling space.
3. We will not be having any discussion about the long-term plan for the fellowship hall until the parking lot and other projects have been completed.

New Business

1. Property and liability insurance renews next month.
2. There will be changes to how the wind and hail deductibles are computed- the new deductible is 1% of the property value.
3. Premiums are going up by $2600.
4. The payout in the event of a total loss is to be determined by company appraisal at the time of loss.
5. It was suggested that we shop around and hold a special council meeting. Our agent is being invited to next month’s meeting.
6. Quotes from other companies will be considered.
7. The renewal contract will be scrutinized by Aaron Blanco and Scott Smith, and Taylor will seek out an appropriate appraiser for the church.
8. Elaine Jenkins motioned to find quotes and get an appraisal. Laura Farris seconded. All voted in favor.

Next month’s meeting will be held on December 12.

The meeting was concluded with the singing of “It Is Truly Meet.”