

***Holy Apostles Orthodox Church***  
***Parish Council Meeting***  
August 21, 2016

**Fr. Thomas started with prayer.**

**Present:** Fr. Thomas Moore , Cindy Buxhoeveden, Emilia Shepherd, Frances Laing, Charlie Walters, Greg Hayda, Michael Pretash, Olga Raetskaya-Solnsteva

**Visitors:** Nicolas Carmine, Dn. Michael Shepherd, Lawrence Gillespie, Quartes, Valerie Selby, Phillip Selby, Melangell Harwell

**July minutes emailed for approval.**

**Treasurer's Report:**

**Income/Expenses for July:**

- Operating fund: \$ 16,177.00 in/ \$20,889.76 out – Balance: \$17,281.95
- Charity fund: \$359.00 in/ \$235.44 out – Balance: \$8,585.07
- Building fund: \$256.00 in / \$0.00 out – Balance: (\$356.64)
- Philokalia book store: \$524.35 in/ \$415.33 out – Balance: (\$536.16)
- Good Seeds: \$0.00 in /\$67.69 out – Balance: \$2,416.08

**Year to date:**

- Operating fund: \$ 128,813.29 in/ \$124,369.98 out – Balance: \$17,281.85
- Charity fund: \$ 4,211.45 in/ \$5,315.96 out – Balance: \$8,585.07
- Building fund: \$2,699.94 in / \$8,828.26 out – Balance: (\$356.64)
- Philokalia book store: \$3,243.19 in/ \$4,196.28 out – Balance: (\$536.16)
- Good Seeds: \$822.92 in /\$183.71 out – Balance: \$2,416.08

1. Quick Books: Electronic transfers are working.
2. Disaster relief volunteers donations: They have donated more than the cost of electricity.
3. The Servant Keeper update: It has been purchased.
4. Playground fund raiser and plans: We are not sure how much Michael H. was able to raise from the painting class fund raiser, maybe around \$400. Her goal is to raise \$5000.

**Church Safety and Emergency Procedures:**

1. Sgt Boyce of the West Columbia Police Department :
  - a. Videos that can be viewed on the internet, “avoid, deny, defend”; a guide from FEMA; for responding to emergencies, such as a child missing, fire, active shooter, extreme weather, etc. Review his email recommendations.
  - b. Dn. Michael will put together a committee to develop our safety procedures and with Sgt Boyce.
  - c. We have had a greeter the past two Sundays in the Narthex. The greeters are one of the servers.
2. First responder's team:
  - a. Olga and Frances have a list of people who have agreed to be on the team and they don't all have to be CPR certified. The list will be posted. The greeters will be given the list so that they know who is considered a first responder and is present on that Sunday. It was suggested that we post their pictures on the wall so that people will know who they are and that they get a blessing.

- b. Defibrillator and first aid kit need to be mounted.
- c. Unattended children under 12 must be brought back to their parents. We will continue to emphasize this.

### **Warden's Report:**

Update on maintenance issues:

1. Trim and arches not finished
2. Main door to hall to be replaced
3. Metal roof on St. Nicholas
4. Bell Tower: Almost complete.
5. Floor and walls for new book store almost complete. Will be getting more tiles this week to complete the floor.
  
6. Greg's routine annual maintenance checklist.
7. Parking lot plan: James, brother-in-law of Brian (one of our new catechumens) is a civil engineer and he said he will create a plan for us.
8. Kid's playground: Michael H. is organizing the redo of the playground.
9. Use of old children's area: Once irrigation is in place then can turn it into a garden.
10. Gate sandblasted and painted and concrete pillars needed to be hung.
11. Irrigation system update: Greg has had some people agree to come out but they have ended up not showing. We think this is due to this being a very busy time of year for them and we will probably have better luck when the summer is over.
12. Fountain area update: No update until irrigation system is completed.
13. Stove hood: Still no luck in getting someone to come out and complete it. It needs to be completed before the next fire inspection which is around Oct.

### **Father Thomas Report:**

1. September 19-23 Fall Metropolitan Council.
2. Dreher island booked
3. Outdoor lighting: No progress
4. Olga had agreed to be our new parish council member in place of Luther who can no longer be on the council due to his work schedule. Welcome Olga!

### **New Business:**

1. Proposal for debt reduction: Fr. stated that he has put the idea of people buying a block on the triangle as a way to pay off the mortgage or have money to pay the salary for another priest on hold. Instead he will present this at the next annual parish council meeting and let the parish vote on what how to utilize the money, including possibly buying the property next door if it were to come on the market.
2. Office security: We agreed to purchase the "panic" button from ADT for Melangell to use when she is in the office if it works at various places around the property. She can put it in her pocket and walk around with it. There is a one-time fee of \$100, and then \$3 a month. Nicholas C. will find out how far she can walk with it and it still work.
3. Dodgeball stadium for the playground: This had been recommended but then there were a number of questions raised, such as who would watch the kids while they play or chase the ball when it gets out of the pit. We decided against this idea.

4. Paypal: The donate page on the Holy Apostles web site reads Holy Apostles, but we think the email that the donor receives states “thank you for donating to the Philokalia Book Store”. Nicholas C. will check on this.
5. Dn. Michael can add a payment button to the Philokalia Facebook page if he wants to sell books online.
6. St. Nicholas festival: Cindy said that she, Valarie, and Luther are coordinating it and have already asked some people to be organizers of specific activities, such as Kristine would organize the cookie walk and she would ask others for assistance. More to come on this. The festival this year will be on Saturday, 12/3. We need a parking coordinator who will head up a team of about 3 people and Fr. will ask the person who did this last year. We can ask the businesses down the street if we can use their parking lot and perhaps someone can get a golf cart to transport people.

#### **Dn. Michael:**

1. Book Store Report: Recently more was spent than brought in, but we are in the rebuilding phase. Overall it is looking good.
2. Trail Life: No update.
3. Youth group: Still working on a date to go to Carowinds in Charlotte. The youth want to take the younger children to a movie.

#### **Old Business:**

1. Looking for free pews.
2. The guidelines have been signed from the outside groups that use our facility to ensure that they are good stewards of the area that they use. We need to gather these documents in one place.
3. Drink machine broken and needs attention from Ken Summers. It has been put in the shed.
4. Philip: Weather vane needs a cupola built
5. Basketball court: Backstop for the basketball court will need to be made because they no longer make the size for the post that is there.
6. Education: Frances said the first class for the year is next Sunday and Dn. Nicholas is assisting.

#### **Closing prayer – Fr. Thomas**