

Holy Apostles Orthodox Church
Parish Council Meeting
September 18, 2016

Fr. Thomas started with prayer.

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

Visitors: Dn. Michael Shepherd, Gloria Terziyska

August minutes emailed for approval and there were a few updates to it.

Treasurer's Report:

Since May we have spent more than we have taken in so we need to keep an eye on expenses. This was due to extra expenses for the bookstore, summer intern, repairs, the Bishop's visit, and defibrillator kit. We still have over \$10,000 in our operating fund.

Income/Expenses for August:

- Operating fund: \$ 16,886.24 in/ \$20,129.84 out – Balance: \$10,983.56
- Charity fund: \$1,286.00 in/ \$600.00 out – Balance: \$9,249.87
- Building fund: \$180.00 in / \$0.00 out – Balance: (\$176.64)
- Philokalia book store: \$795.19 in/ \$668.04 out – Balance: (\$13.07)
- Good Seeds: \$195.34 in /\$0.00 out – Balance: \$2,075.29

Year to date:

- Operating fund: \$ 145,726.40 in/ \$147,581.38 out – Balance: \$10,983.56
- Charity fund: \$ 5,497.45 in/ \$5,937.16 out – Balance: \$9,249.87
- Building fund: \$2,879.94 in / \$8,828.26 out – Balance: (\$176.64)
- Philokalia book store: \$4,318.30 in/ \$4,748.27 out – Balance: (\$13.07)
- Good Seeds: \$1,024.26 in /\$719.84 out – Balance: \$2,075.29

Warden's Report:

Greg reported that by our next meeting many of the maintenance issues below will be completed.

1. New bookstore: This is our first priority and in a few weeks Greg will be free to work on the finishing the floor, trim, paint, and determine fixtures. We will then have a moving date and will have a workday for people to come help move all of the books. The current bookstore can then be repainted.
2. Door to Narthex needs to be fixed
3. AC filters?
4. Weather vane with cupola installed
5. Trim and arches not finished
6. Main door to hall needs to be replaced
7. Metal roof on St. Nicholas hall
8. Bell Tower: Almost complete
9. Greg's routine annual maintenance checklist
10. Parking lot plan: No update
11. Kid's playground: Michael H. is organizing the redo of the playground. About \$400 was raised from her painting fund raiser and her goal is \$5000.
12. Irrigation system update: Once it cools down Greg will be able to get someone to come

out and work on this. Phillip and Valerie have put a lot of time in watering our plants this summer.

13. Use of old children's area: Once irrigation is in place then it will be turned into an herb garden.
14. Gate sandblasted and painted and concrete pillars needed to be hung.
15. Fountain area update: No update until irrigation system is completed.
16. 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 in Oct. Greg will talk to his neighbor.
17. Outdoor lighting for the dome: No progress yet.
18. The glass on the door in the St. Nicholas hall is moving down so there is a gap at the top of the door. It is not causing any danger.

Father Thomas Report:

1. September 19-23 he will be at the Fall Metropolitan Council in NY.
2. September 24-25 he will be in Raleigh for the Bishop's visit. Fr. Dimitri Oselinsky from Atlanta will serve.
3. Dreher Island is booked for next year's Pascha, but will contact Lake Murray the first of March and if we can get that we will cancel Dreher Island.
4. September 21st Dn. Nicholas will start class on the creed after vespers on Wednesdays.
5. Dan Buxhoeveden will start a series of classes soon for the college kids and Dan needs to find out what night of the week is best for them to meet.
6. A prayer service for the 40 days for life will be held on Oct. 5th from 7 a.m.-12 p.m. at Planned Parenthood. They are closed that day. We will have prayers and hold icons. Some people said they felt the tone of the announcement this last Sunday was negative which made people feel uncomfortable.
7. Jonathon and Sabrina will be going to the Moses the Black Conference in order to see how the conference is held. We would like to host the conference here in 2018.
8. Oct. 14-16 camping trip. Fr. Adam Hortsman will be serving here.
9. Oct 22-23 Louie Zagomi from IOCC to speak here.
10. Oct 23-25 Carolinas Deanery retreat

New Business:

Dn. Michael Report:

1. Bookstore Report: Dn. Michael reported that he still is having some issues with the monthly reconciliation between QuickBooks and the bank, but it has reduced the hours he has to put into it. QuickBooks need to be linked to the bank from the beginning for it to work smoothly. Overall things are going well with the bookstore.
2. Trail Life: Although this is a very good program, we don't have the funds and manpower right now to run it. It was decided that we will stop this program for now and use the money for the Trail Life fees for the youth group.
3. Youth group: This group is growing and doing some great activities. For the first outing the older kids took the younger kids to the movie "Secret Life of Pets" which was a big hit. In Oct. the older kids are going to Scarowinds (Halloween at Carowinds). In Nov. they will do a charity event at Oakreed Manor. In Dec. they will do Homeworks (help rebuild a home). Jan. is Souper Bowl.

New Business:

1. Education of Children and Adults: The pros and cons of having separate education classes for younger kids, older kids, and adults, versus a universal approach that includes all ages, versus a class that includes all ages and then break it out to the different age groups was discussed. Dn. Michael said that the teens are asking for more education, and sometimes when younger children are in the class it puts them in a position to babysit. What the topic is makes a difference. Frances uses the universal approach in her Adventures in Orthodoxy series and it is going well. The last class had good interest and input from all the different age groups.

Old Business:

1. Dn. Michael now has the payment button on the Philokalia Facebook page and has several books listed.
2. Ga-Ga Ball for the playground: At the last meeting this was recommended but there were questions raised, such as who would watch the kids while they played or who would chase the ball when it gets out of the pit. There is a video that can be watched to learn more about it. It was suggested that there be a playground committee made up of parents, such as Mat. Emelia, Dn. Michael, and Michael H. who can get the details on it and present it to the parish. It was clarified that we can ask other parents to watch our kids on the playground, but, when it comes to outings away from the church the chaperones must have background checks.
3. Church Safety and Emergency Procedures:
 - a. Dn. Michael will put together a committee to develop our safety procedures.
 - b. Greeters in Narthex: This program is going well. Standing in the back they have noticed how people frequently walk in and out during the service. The greeters have permission to talk to them about it or to let Father know so he can talk to them.
 - c. First responder's team: Olga and Frances are getting the list together of the people who will be our first responders. Nathan will head up the team and Olga will help arrange for items that are needed. The defibrillator has been mounted and pediatric pads have been purchased.
4. St. Nicholas Festival Report:
 - a. Cindy reported that they had a meeting with the organizers last Sunday.
 - b. The floor plan in the St. Nicholas hall will remain the same as last year. Brett's coffee will be in the new bookstore. The current bookstore will be used for the silent auction and where workers can take breaks.
 - c. On Sunday, 11/6, we will bring our work clothes and take everything down from the high storage space so that we can see what we have. Gregg said we have ladders available to do this.
 - d. The disaster relief volunteers will be out of the St. Nicholas hall at the beginning of Nov. so we have the month of Nov. to prepare it for the festival. Once the festival is over we can start using it for coffee hour.
 - e. All of Saturdays in Nov. will be the workdays to prepare for the festival (Oct. workdays will be used to move into the bookstore).
 - f. The budget is \$2000.
 - g. The proceeds from the festival will go to local charities so we need to start coming up with our suggestions of charities to donate to. Olga is familiar with the Free Medical Clinic which always needs funds and she will get us more information on it.
 - h. Need someone to lead up organizing the parking. Ephraim is the man who helped with parking last year (he travels to different churches and cleans the church brass) and Father will ask him if he can help this year, but he would not be the one to organize it. Per the

last meeting we decided against using golf carts to transport people to and from their cars.

5. Debt reduction
6. Panic button progress? No update
7. Paypal: The donate page on the Holy Apostles web site: Nicholas C.
8. Looking for free pews
9. Are the guidelines about how outside groups use our facility gathered in one place?
10. Broken drink machine is in the shed.
11. 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.

Closing prayer – Fr. Thomas