

St. Nicholas Parish Council Meeting, 15 November 2012

Members Present: Barbara Rhenish, Marina Poutiatine, Walter Alesevich, Claire Nobles, Mark Pietrzykoski, John Stepanchuk, Ann Alaoglu, William Corcoran, Michele Smith, Marilyn Swezey

Members Absent: Ken Mitchell, Suzanne Tolstoy, Peter Vlasov

Clergy in Attendance: Father Denis Bradley, Father George Kokhno

Guest: Emily Eugenia Murphey

The meeting began at : 7:15

Opening Prayer: Father Denis led everyone in “O Heavenly King.”

Parish Secretary was absent, and Father Denis asked Claire Nobles to take minutes.

Agenda was reviewed. Collection for Hurricane Sandy was added to New Business. Claire Nobles moved that the amended Agenda be approved. Agenda was approved by all.

October **Minutes** were not available and the topic of Minutes was tabled. Barbara Rhenish agreed to double-check the September Minutes.

Father Denis Bradley: Metropolitan Tikhon, Bishop Nikon, Bishop Mark, Archimandrite from St. Catherine’s Monastery in the Sinai will be coming on Sunday 18 November. This is a Liturgical visit at which the Archbishop of Washington will celebrate, not an administrative visit to discuss problems.

Administrator’s Report: Father George Kokhno thanked the Parish Council for bringing him on the staff at St. Nicholas. He stated that he is now preoccupied with the Metropolitan’s visit.

Fall Festival: Michele Smith reports that the Fall Festival netted \$31,000. This happened because we were able to control expenses—Elena Ponamarenko and Irina Panyutin kept costs down—and we had increased sales of food items. We also had better income from the Yard Sale, and Nina Shaffran did well with Fundraising. Michele thinks the dispersed authority method of organizing the Fall Festival was better for everyone.

Annual Meeting: Father Denis reports that Father John Perich and Metropolitan Tikhon will delay the Annual Parish Meeting. A Bishop can legally delay the meeting *with cause*, according to DC law.

Michele Smith says that the Parish needs to vote to approve the kitchen renovation. Clergy and members discussed whether it is possible to send out paper ballots rather than having a meeting to vote on the kitchen. Father George Kokhno will talk to Father John Perich.

Father Denis Bradley reports that Metropolitan's Enthronement will be 27 January 2013.

No decision was made

Renovation: Michele Smith will meet with kitchen renovation architects in the next two weeks to show plans, start permitting process, and sign contract with general contractor.

Jonathan Russin, Parish Attorney, will be consulted to see if mailing ballots will be allowable.

New Business: Marina Poutiatine asked that the Parish Christmas Card be added to Agenda.

Enthronement: Father John Perich will be in charge of Enthronement. Ann Alaoglu wants to call attention to the needs of the Choir for Enthronement—people need to be added to Choir. Clergy will send questions to Father John Perich.

Other issues with Enthronement:

--Renovation is supposed to start at end of January (talk to Father John Perich about this.)

--What other buildings could we use for Enthronement?

--What gift shall we give to the new Metropolitan from the Cathedral?

Relocation of Gift Corner and Other Activities: Marina Poutiatine asking on behalf of Suzanne Tolstoy: Can we use the Sun Room for Gift Corner? Where is a safe place for the Gift Corner inventory? Basement of Rectory?

Outreach Volunteers for Christ House: Claire Nobles reported that Father George Kokhno and Father Valery Shemchuk would be announcing from the Ambon the need for Christ House volunteers. Barbara Rhenish said that her son Alex is available to help with Christ House.

Collection for Hurricane Sandy Victims: Clergy will announce from Ambon and *Announce* that St. Nicholas will be collecting contributions for Hurricane Sandy victims. Donors will write checks to St. Nicholas Cathedral and the Cathedral will write a check to IOCC. Two signs will be made for the collection basket.

Committee Reports:

Audit Committee—Joel, Ann, and Olga—Report Draft will address concerns of Audit Committee

Christmas Card—Barbara (in office) will do Christmas card mailing. Tatjana D’Arcangelo has done the Christmas cards for the past several years.

Pledge letter needs to go out.

Budget & Finance: Michele Smith reported that there will be surplus for 2012 accounting procedures and policies guidelines have been completed and committee will have a vote in December. Father George is asked to read this document.

Zene has told us there will be a budget surplus this year--the months January through April were strong for collections, and the church is saving on administrative expenses.

Revenue from Fall Festival for Gift Corner went into Gift Corner Savings Account.

Facilities: Mark Pietrzykoski reports there’s a leaking ceiling in the Annex.

Legal and By-Laws: Walter Alesevich reports that Verizon has been unable to produce a bill for services.

Barbara Rhenish reports that she has sent information about requesting tax relief on Rectory to lawyer Brian Talbot so that he can negotiate with District of Columbia.

Personnel: Walter Alesevich moved that the meeting go into Executive Session for discussion of Personnel matters. Motion carried.

Walter moved that Council come out of Executive Session. Motion carried.

Bill Corcoran moved that Council adjourn. Motion carried.

Closing Prayer: Father Denis Bradley led the group in “It is Truly Meet.”

Next Meeting will be 13 December at 7:00 PM.

Approved:

President of the St. Nicholas Cathedral Parish

Priest in Charge of the Cathedral

Date