

New Church Committee

1 MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2015

The third meeting of the Saint Demetrios New Church committee was called to order by James Economos, co-chairman, at 6:45 PM at the community center meeting room for the purpose of building a new Saint Demetrios church building on the Atlantic Street property.

In attendance were:

Father and Presvetera Valantasis, George Halkias, James Economos, George Pahoulis, Kitsa and Mike Aivazis, Dean Nikolaidis, Gus Aivazis, Charlie and Cindy Lambis, Irene Culetsu, Arlene DiCesare, Cynthia Savakis, Frank Manios, Matt Kassos, Dr. George Ploumbis, Marianne Raptis, Pari Alexandrides, Stephanie Mikouis, George and Sophia Funtulis, George Bournias, Nick Kondoleon, Angelo Zoumas, Paras Copenhaver, Steve Zervas, Dino Vardavas,

Minutes of the previous meeting were distributed.

The meeting opened with a prayer. Jim made introductory comments to keep the meetings fun and promote the goal of the betterment of St. Demetrios church. He asked that all committee members make sure to fulfill their stewardship while participating in the committees. Gus Aivazis was asked to be co-chairperson of the New Church Committee with Jim Economos and Dr. George Ploumbis to help with the chairperson duties. Cindy Lambis moved to accept and this was seconded by George Bournias.

George Halkias contacted the architect and briefly related their conversation to the committee members. Cost per sq. ft for the new church would be \$350 x 15,700 or approximately \$5.5M. Approximate cost of the Sunday School building would be about \$150 per sq. ft. This is the cost in today's dollars including site work, fees, etc. George said he discussed with the architect use of normal building materials, parking lot areas, the multipurpose room, translation of the courtyard to an athletic/all around area. They discussed cutting back on the number of classrooms or redesign of the classrooms, office space and lavatory facilities, storage and the impact to festival activities, laws concerning the gas well, the crying room, possible removal of the chapel and bell tower and if the architect needs to come visit the site again. The architect thought this was advisable. Cost of the visit would include room and airfare. There would be for a fee for updates. The architect was available to visit the weekend of March 6th and 7th.

Kitsa Aivazis asked if the architect would partner with a local architect? Dino Vardavas wanted to know if the committee was set to move forward or if there was any opposition. Father Kosta responded that there is surely opposition. It is the duty of the committees to present the facts and emphasize that the purpose of this endeavor is the renewal of the community. Education and love to all.

More discussion ensued. Frank Manios said that more questions need to be answered such as the future of the current site of St. Demetrios. Father Kosta would lead the subcommittee for Site Development including ideas for funding the current church site. He would focus on those who have different opinions.

A motion was made to invite the architect to speak to the committee at large and to review the cost of revisions. Mike Aivazis seconded the motion. Jim Economos asked for discussion of the motion. Stephanie Mikouis suggested that questions needed to be structured prior to meeting with the architect. Charlie Lambis agreed that there were several gray areas that the Building committee needs to bring to the committee at large. Nick Kondoleon asked if a conference call could be a better way to discuss these topics with the architect.

George Bournias requested to table his motion until more information was received. Meeting with the architect will be postponed.

Volunteers for the Site Development subcommittee are Stephanie Mikouis and Dean Nikolaidis.

George Bournias requested to be added to the Building Subcommittee.

The Site Development subcommittee will meet at the church on Tuesday 2/24/15 at 6:00 PM. The Pledge subcommittee will meet immediately after at 7:00 PM at the church. Pledge committee volunteers are Marianne Raptis, Irene Bournias which also include Frank Manios, Father Kosta and Stephanie Mikouis.

The meeting was adjourned.