St. John the Merciful Orthodox Church

2220 East Irlo Bronson Memorial Highway, Unit #1 Kissimmee, FL 34744

Parish Council Meeting Agenda - May 13th, 2025, 7:00pm

Attendees:

Opening Prayer

Progress Report and State of the Mission - Fr. David

1. Attendance
2. Past month events
    a. Holy Week and Pascha
    b. Brenner Wedding
3. Upcoming events for the next month and beyond:

Financial Updates - Wendy

1. April 2025 Cash and Restricted
2. April 2025 Budget vs Actuals
3. Other Financial updates

Ongoing Old Business - Erich

1. Church projects completed (**see chart at this link**)
2. Plumbing Issue in bathrooms.
3. Addressing Noise Concerns
    a. Guidance from Dean (see below)
    b. Proposed Letter
4. Iconostasis extension project
5. Window Wraps
6. Camp St. Christopher Scholarships

New Business - Erich

1. Proposed candle supplier change from St. Petka's to Holy Nativity Convent
2. Review of Alms Fund Activity and Processes
3. Proposed Need for additional Committees at SJTM (see below)
4. Divine Liturgy Service Booklet Printing

Closing Prayer

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Guidance from Dean Addressing Noise Concerns

I briefing Fr. Ted of our efforts to attenuate the sound and the $30k estimate we got from the firm Andy Stachow contacted. From his construction background he thinks we can do everything needed for less than $10k. He strongly recommends that we get a more realistic estimate on the cost of adequate sound attenuation and go the landlord with that and a plan to split up the cost over 12 months or rent reduction rather than "go to war".

Here are his bullet points:

- I have done sound attenuation in the past—on a college music arts building. Obviously the design process included an acoustical engineer
- A solution should be much cheaper than $30k and it is something you can probably do your self.
- Is your ceiling Acoustical tile? If the ceiling is acoustical tile you can lay insulation batts across the top which you need because the sound is reverberating off the metal roof deck.
- First it would be good to know what is the composition of the walls between you and your neighbors? Also the ceiling. Finally, Do the existing walls go to the roof deck? It would be great if you can send me a freehand sketch
- As a oversimplification you can build a 6-8 inch thick temp wall 24 in oc adjacent to existing wall with 8" sound batts (ie insulation). You can bring this to the roof deck if necessary. In addition you could also attach 1" styrofoam to existing wall before erecting new walls
- This is non-structural so u can do this in house, no permits. Also you could negotiate having the owner pay materials by reducing your monthly rent dividing material cost over 12 months or so.
- Also I know a contractor at St Stephen's s who would be glad to offer local guidance.

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Proposed Need for additional committees at SJTM

- We're not able to accomplish everything we need to accomplish with a monthly 90 min parish council meeting now that we have grown our facilities, budget, ministries, and membership.
- Propose start of new committees that can work under Parish Council guidance for specific objectives, staying within the guardrails (time and budget) appointed by Parish Council and activities of that committee will be shared at Parish Council Meetings.
  - Rector and Warden are ex officio members of all councils and committees for oversight.
  - This allows for new members and young members to get more involved who aren't ready for Parish Council
- Suggestion for three new committees:
  1. **Property Search Committee** - to help assess our current "buying power", help start process of looking for properties that will meet our current and future needs.
  2. **Liturgical Celebration Committee** - to help plan and execute services, decorations, and meals for events outside of our normal Sunday Divine Liturgy.
  3. **Church Facilities and Projects Committee** - Construction, repair, and other miscellaneous projects that are executed by parishioners.
- Request to institute these committees with limited authority to move forward on approved projects within existing budget and plan fundraising for any proposed future projects that exceed current budget.