

# 2020 Alaska Greek Festival

August 21st- 23rd

**Lessons Learned** 

## Festival Background

- 27<sup>th</sup> year
- Raised funds for building the world's most northern Byzantine church in Alaska; broke ground in 2009, first service in 2015 and loan paid off 2019
- Planned to have Consecration this May, but had to postpone due to COVID



#### Hunker Down order issued



City of Anchorage issued a "Hunker Down" order on March 21st.

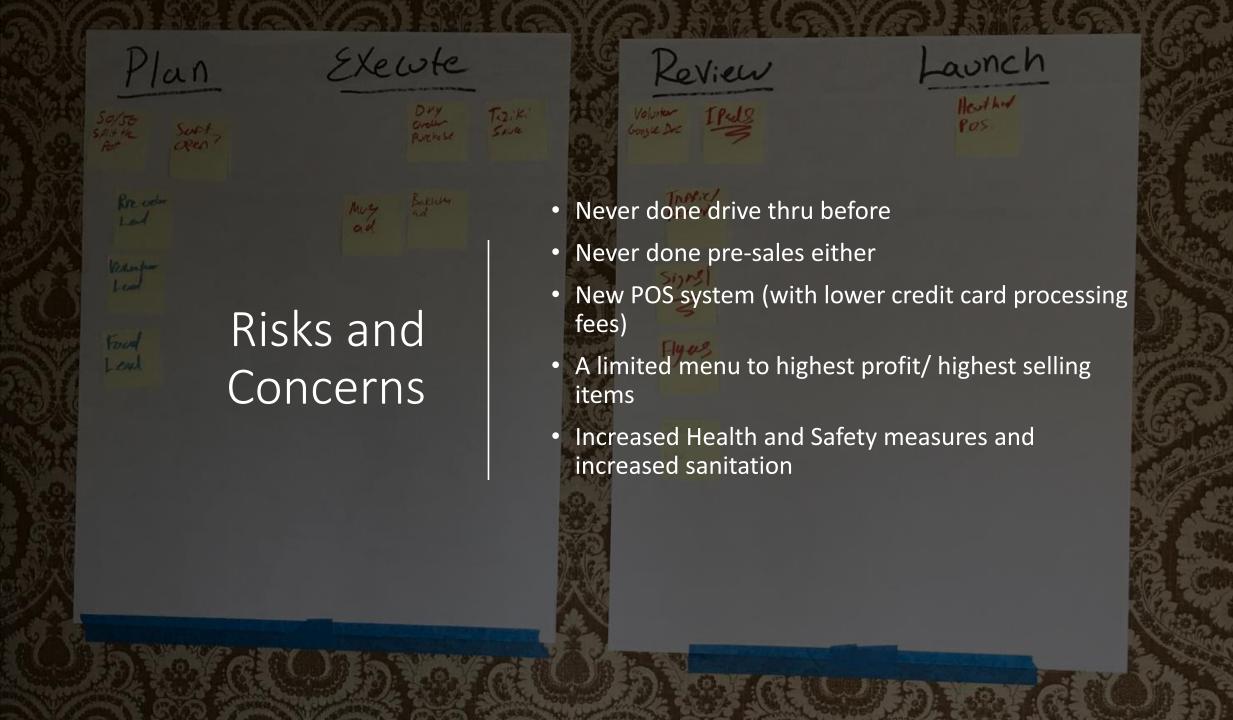


Chair Vasilios, Co-Chair Amalia and Executive Director Eirini met to plan contingency options for possible future restrictions and how to mitigate them



Set Go/ No Go date for June 30<sup>th</sup>, with Parish Council Meeting July 7 to decide on our recommendations





### Pre-sales were a must for cash flow

Baklava Dozen packs

Mix packs of
Kourambietes,
Melamamcarona,
and Baklava

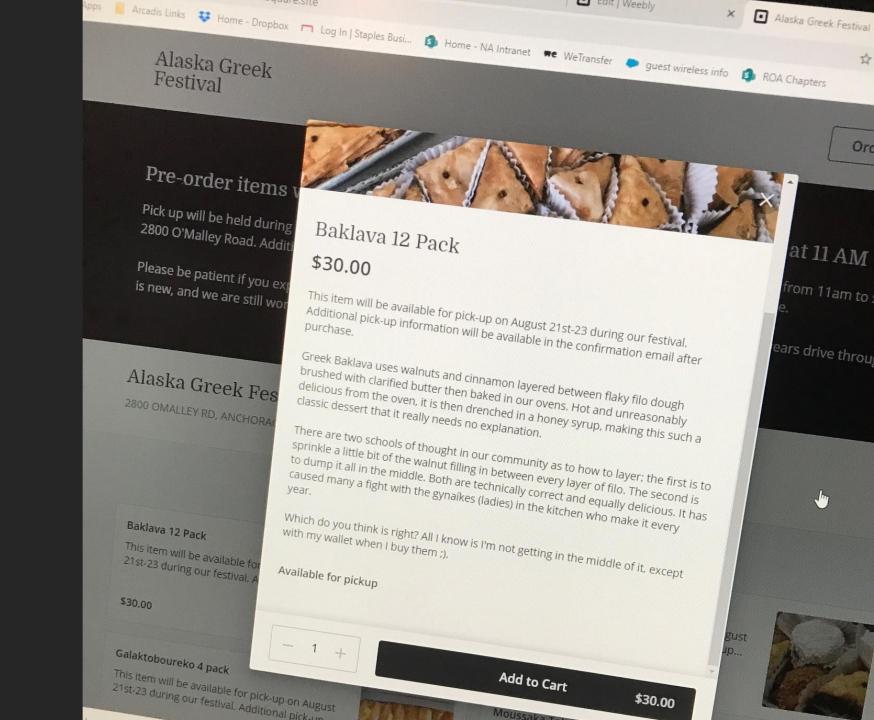
Galaktoboureko

Moussaka

**Pastitsio** 

And commemorative mugs (which we never do)

Opened online store July 15, and started getting orders right away





#### Lessons Learned

- Be Flexible
- Be profitable not perfect
- It's better to have extra hands than not enough
- Alaskans love our moussaka and baklava- we could not make enough!
  - We may do a second moussaka and baklava online sale for December
- Start with the end in mind, and use that number to drive the workload
- Limit complexity for customers to keep the lines moving
- Limit variables to minimize risk with local authorities, the public, and volunteers (less IS more)