



METROPOLIS
OF DETROIT

HOLY TRINITY-ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

7000 Winton Road, Cincinnati, OH 45224 • Tel.: (513) 591-0030 • Fax: (513) 591-0043
Web: www.holytrinity.oh.goarch.org • Email: gopriest@gmail.com

Parish Council Meeting Minutes August 17, 2012

ATTENDANCE

Clergy: Fr. William Cassis, Fr. Paul Truebenbach

Members present: Chris Chryssovergis (Presiding), Peter Aamodt (Recording), Frank Cook, Brad Fielden, Nick Georgiton, Dr. Anastasios Ioannides, George Kalemanis, Dr. Pete Kambelos, Ron Nichols, John Sakelos, Ianthe Schulte, Andy Stefanopoulos.

Member absent: Eleni Haralamos.

Honorary Member: Sophie Guethlein.

Parish Staff: Chris Jonson, Eugene Nicholas.

PRE-MEETING

Opening Prayer: Fr. Bill gave the opening prayer at the fellowship meal preceding the meeting.

MEETING

Call to order: Chris Chryssovergis called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

Secretary's report:

- Minutes: the minutes of the June 28, 2012, meeting were unanimously approved.
- Correspondence/announcements: the following were communicated to the Council:
 - IOCC solicitation
 - Archdiocesan stewardship materials.

Clergy remarks:

- Fr. Paul:
 - No current JOY/Hope activity
 - GOYA had a Reds game outing. Meeting attendance has been increasing. Requests include a movie night and more social events, e.g., a pool party, canoeing and a winter event.

Clergy-Laity Congress Report:

- Fr. Bill: Several sessions were held which addressed dysfunction issues in priestly families due to increased demands on clergy. He and Presvytera took part in presenting one of the seminars. This was also the most peaceful congress that Father remembers attending.
- Chris Chryssovergis: Among the sessions he attended, one focused on parish communications, suggesting ways to integrate materials distributed by the Archdiocese and ways for parishes to communicate positive messages even in the face of controversy or scandal.
- Peter Aamodt: The Archbishop's focus on demographics was noteworthy, a theme picked up in the breakout session he attended with His Eminence Metropolitan Evangelos. The Archons' update on the Patriarchate's relationship with Turkey contained seeds of future positive developments.

Treasurer's report:

- The June 2012 financial statements were presented by Nick Georgiton for review. Regarding the Endowment fund, Eugene Nicholas indicated that the Parish will receive another bequest, adding \$10,000 to the Endowment, with notice of a further \$188,000 to come. More about the Endowment fund's growth will be forthcoming with the Endowment Committee's next report. The Treasurer's report was approved unanimously.

Parish Administrator's report:

- Thanks to Fr. Bill the food pantry is now named the Good Shepherd Food Pantry.
- In response to Fr. Bill's recent homily, the Parish is becoming greener. A bin has already been obtained from Rumpke for the recycling of glass, plastic, etc. Since this new bin, can handle all material, the dedicated paper bin will be eliminated. Parishioners may bring items to the Church for recycling if they have no recycling access at home.
- Final figures are in for the Panegyri. Gross expenses are unchanged from the preliminary report given in June, and net profit is approximately \$235,000, almost the budgeted amount. After-festival sales helped to generate additional proceeds, and the Parish received a \$1,500 credit from Peterman because of the Friday night bus problem. Frank Cook has indicated that he is willing to chair the festival again next year, with a co-chair recommended.
- Reminder for parishioners to register their Kroger cards to benefit the Parish, which is eligible to receive a 4% reward. The first check under this program should be received in October, which will reflect the first full quarter after the Parish began participating.

Old Business:

- St. Nicholas dinner/dance: Discussion was had as to whether this Council-sponsored event, last held in 2010, should be held this year. Eugene reminded the Council that the event is tentatively on the Church calendar for December 1st. A decision is needed by September 9th so that an announcement can be made in the October issue of the *Voice*. Peter Aamodt moved to go forward with the event. Ron Nichols asked why attendance has been an issue, to which Eugene replied that the proximity to the St. Demetrios event was a problem two years ago, but there is time between them this year. Discussion turned to pricing: this event has been a big fundraiser in past years, but the scarcity of inexpensive family events was also noted. Chris Chrysovergis suggested maximizing the number of attendees at an affordable price-point. The question was called, at which point the motion was passed unanimously. The Special Events Committee will move forward to book a band upon Fr. Bill's suggestion.
- Other updates:
 - John Sakelos asked about plans to update the large hall. The Facilities Committee will sketch out their various ideas and bring them to the Council.
 - John asked about plans to acquire property adjacent to the Parish. Chris will contact Evan Andrews for an update on his latest discussions with the property owner.
 - Fr. Bill is still waiting to hear about the 2013 Metropolis Clergy-Laity Assembly.

Committee reports:

- Special Events/Car Raffle: Andy Stefanopoulos reported that 386 tickets had been sold thus far, 53 ahead of last year's pace. Over 925 tickets are out for sale. He suggests sending out tickets with stamped, addressed envelopes to help close potential sales.
- Stewardship: Peter Aamodt reported that the 2013 stewardship theme, per the materials received from the Archdiocese, is "Go and Bear Fruit." Discussion was had as to approaches to take for the fall campaign. Andy suggested that more than a thermometer is needed and plans to set up a table after Sunday liturgy. Fr. Bill noted that, per the latest figures, the average stewardship gift from non-pledgers is only \$380 – how to approach this Parish segment requires careful consideration. Chris asked the Committee to come back with a plan of attack.
- Governance & Continuity: Pete Kambelos requests suggestions for new Council members, hoping to draw from parishioners demonstrating attendance and participation in Parish life.

Other:

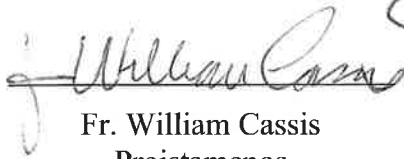
- Members offered good-of-the-Parish comments and observations:
 - Frank Cook looked forward to next year, based on the spiritual, financial and physical leadership that the Holy Spirit brings forth. He also thanked Fr. Bill and Fr. Paul for their efficacious prayers for good festival weather.
 - Andy Stefanopoulos expressed thanks for the good fish dinner prior to the Council meeting
 - Eugene Nicholas reported that \$2,600 had been raised recently for the Fr. Mitsos scholarship fund.

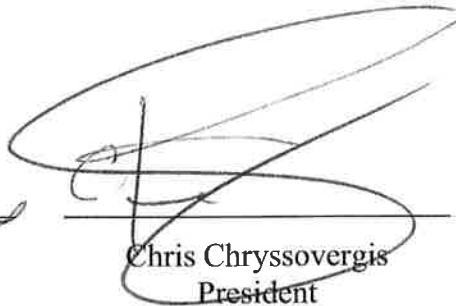
ADJOURNMENT


Call to adjourn: the motion to adjourn was made at 8:25 pm.

Closing prayer: Fr. Paul offered the closing prayer.

Approved as written,


Fr. William Cassis
Proistamenos


Chris Chryssovergis
President


Peter Aamodt
Secretary