



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 October 18, 2012

ATTENDANCE

Clergy: Fr. William Cassis, Fr. Paul Truebenbach.

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

Member absent: Ianthe Schulte.

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 7:01 pm.

President's remarks:

- Based on General Assembly discussion of Parish Hall renovations, there needs to be an evaluation of both banquet center and gym facility options. Three parishioners with architectural expertise – Sam Boulmetis, Jim Gelis and Alex Christoforides - will work to form recommendations into two schematic designs, one for each option. These should be complete by the end of the month, after which Brad Fielden will develop cost estimates in time for the November Council meeting.
- The Stewardship Committee will need to respond to the General Assembly's increase of the 2013 goal to \$465,000.
- The discussion of Narthex improvements will take place next month.
- Now that the General Assembly has approved funding for the Lay Assistant position, the Human Resources Committee will work with Fr. Bill to find an appropriately qualified person to fill it. Fr. Bill has already been in touch with Holy Cross Seminary.

Secretary's report:

- Minutes: the minutes of the September 20, 2012, meeting were unanimously approved as corrected.
- Correspondence/announcements: an announcement regarding Outreach Sunday on November 4th was read. Chris Chrysovergis volunteered to represent the Council by making vegetarian chili.

Clergy remarks:

- Fr. Bill:
 - His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas approved the compensation details for the Lay Assistant position, which will not participate in the Archdiocesan health plan. The issue of a car allowance, which was raised at the General Assembly, will have to be considered.
 - The Metropolitan has accepted the Parish's offer to host the 2013 Metropolis Clergy-Laity Assembly. The approval of recommended co-chairs will be taken up under New Business.
 - General Assembly follow-up: regarding the Car Raffle, raffles are generally discouraged by the Archdiocese. Its policy since the 1970s has been that parishes should sustain themselves through stewardship. Also, not everything that brings people into the Parish is necessarily good.
- Fr. Paul thanked all for the outpouring of love following the birth of son Paul. Presvytera has written thank-you notes for the flowers received.

Treasurer's report:

- The September 2012 financial statements were presented by Nick Georgiton for review. Eugene Nicholas indicated that he is working to manage cash without tapping the remaining \$80,000 of net Panegyri proceeds. Although stewardship contribution levels declined in September, they have rebounded in October ahead of the General Assembly. Among expenses recorded in the Church Supplies expense line was a crucifix for which Fr. Bill is seeking a donor. The Treasurer's report was approved unanimously.

Parish Administrator's report:

- 100 people have signed up for the Thanksgiving meals to be provided by the Parish Food Pantry. Eugene has asked for donations from Kroger's.
- Quarterly stewardship statements should be out in the mail by next Monday [October 22].
- The first batch of leaves and boulders for the Giving Tree has been sent to the engraver and should be returned in a week's time.
- Only \$19,000 remains to be repaid to the Endowment fund for the outstanding loan made to operations.

New Business:

- Parish Hall renovation: more discussion was had regarding various ideas and challenges. Andy Stefanopoulos asked if a combination gym-banquet hall option had been considered, e.g., with floating floors serving different uses – this has been looked at before, and it was found that storage is a problem. While indicating that good questions were being raised, Brad Fielden said that schematics would be needed before they could be answered. Funding and returns-on-investment are also considerations. Next month's presentation will focus on concepts, not details.
- Metropolis Clergy-Laity Assembly chairs: the selection of volunteers Eleni and Tom Zafares and Karen and Peter Aamodt as co-chairs was unanimously approved.

Old Business:

- Parish security system: Brad Fielden reported that he had received one bid so far but plans to present three quotes to the Council next month. Fr. Bill indicated that there had only been one church break-in in recent memory, occurring ten years ago. Chris Jonson is looking into security services, including stepped-up patrols from Springfield Township police. Fr. Bill wants to ensure that no parishioners are accosted.

Other:

- Members offered good-of-the-Parish comments and observations:
 - John Sakelos requests volunteers to help staff the directory photo sessions. The dates available are on the poster. Volunteers may select times of their own choosing to be present.
 - Andy Stefanopoulos was not aware of the Archdiocesan position on raffles. The Parish has been holding its raffle since 1953.

ADJOURNMENT

Call to adjourn: the motion to adjourn was made at 7:37 pm.

Closing prayer: Fr. Paul offered the closing prayer.

Approved as written,

		
Fr. William Cassis Proistamenos	Chris Chryssovergis President	Peter Aamodt Secretary