



METROPOLIS  
OF DETROIT

## HOLY TRINITY-ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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### Parish Council Meeting Minutes September 20, 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.

**Honorary Member:** Sophie Guethlein.

**Parish Staff:** Chris Jonson, Eugene Nicholas.

Members absent: Brad Fielden

#### 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:** Chris thanked George Kalemanis for the evening's meal.

#### **Secretary's report:**

- Minutes: the minutes of the August 17, 2012, meeting were unanimously approved.
- Correspondence/announcements: the following were communicated to the Council:
  - IOCC and National Forum of Church Musicians solicitations
  - Monthly *Shepherd's Staff* newsletter from the Metropolis.

#### **Clergy remarks:**

- Fr. Bill:
  - Everything is up and running for the fall: Church, Sunday Church School, Greek School, Orthodoxy 101.
  - He and Fr. Paul are discussing starting a Bible study.
  - He will attend a Metropolis clergy seminar in Detroit September 25-27 and the Presbyters' Council in Naples, Florida, October 15-17.

- The Parish Council should consider installing security cameras around the Church building in response to recent parking lot break-ins. It would be wise to consider having someone watch the lots during events as an interim measure.
- Fr. Paul is presently working on winter retreat planning for YAL and GOYA.

**Treasurer's report:**

- The August 2012 financial statements were presented by Nick Georgiton for review. Eugene Nicholas noted that stewardship showed a spike for the month due to the size of one particular donation. The Treasurer's report was approved unanimously.

**Parish Administrator's report:**

- A volunteer from Philoptochos has offered to coordinate the Food Pantry effort for Thanksgiving. The Maids of Athena will be involved too. It is expected that 150 meals will be provided. Parishioners may start bringing turkeys now.
- The first recycling pickup has been made and will be made again in a couple of weeks. As a reminder, Styrofoam cups are not recycled, nor are paper cups. Tasos Ioannides asked about not receiving money for paper recycling. – Paper recycling has only generated \$55 over the past two years.
- The mailing for the October 14th General Assembly will go out on Monday [September 25]. Four Bengal tickets will be raffled off as an attendance incentive. Chris Chrysosovergis indicated that the Assembly meeting will be streamlined to cover only the budget and nominations this time. Suggestions for nominees should be given to Chris or Pete Kambelos.
- The Stewardship mailing will be out by October 1st.
- With two major mailings, the Parish office would use volunteer assistance to help get them out and in the mail.

**New Business:**

- 2013 Budget: the Council considered the draft budget prepared by the budget committee. Peter Aamodt moved approval of the 2013 budget. As several questions concerned compensation, the Council entered executive session for most of its budget discussion. Other items discussed included outreach, the Lay assistant position and Panegyri net income. The budget was approved unanimously.

**Committee reports:**

- Special Events/Car Raffle: Andy Stefanopoulos reported that a total of 778 tickets were sold, six fewer than last year. However, the event generated approximately \$36,000 in net revenue, which was an increase over the prior year. Andy thanked several people responsible for the success of the event, including Sophie Guethlein, Chris Jonson and Eugene Nicholas.

- Stewardship: Peter Aamodt provided a brief report. “Go and Bear Fruit” is the 2013 Archdiocesan theme, which will be included in all materials, including the samples provided to Council members for review. Current stewardship received is \$13,000 ahead of the same time last year. We hope also to show an increase at year-end.
- Endowment: Nick Georgiton reported that the endowment fund balance is now \$431,000. This includes a recently received bequest. The Giving Tree should be installed very soon.

**Other:**

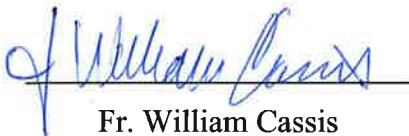
- Members offered good-of-the-Parish comments and observations:
  - George Kalemanis appreciated everyone’s presence and fellowship.
  - John Sakelos reminded about planning the St. Nicholas Day dinner dance event.
  - Peter Aamodt reminded all about the upcoming Daughters of Penelope wine tasting event.
  - Frank Cook appreciated the presence of the Holy Spirit in love.
  - Fr. Bill has been approached by some parishioners concerned about the continued viability of the car raffle.
  - Fr. Paul expressed gratitude for the generosity shown at the recent baby showers.
  - Ianthe Schulte enjoyed the car raffle event.
  - Eleni Haralamos announced that she and George are expecting a baby.
  - Andy Stefanopoulos enjoyed the fellowship meal and recommended Fr. Paul’s reading class.
  - Tasos Ioannides is arranging vendor meetings for the Parish photo directory.

**ADJOURNMENT**

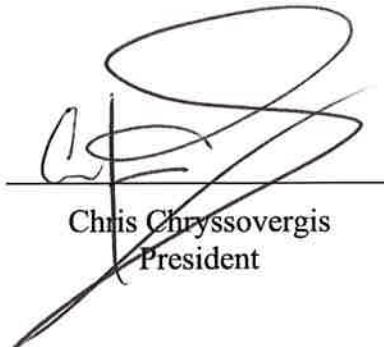
**Call to adjourn:** the motion to adjourn was made at 8:44 pm.

**Closing prayer:** Fr. Paul offered the closing prayer.


Approved as written,



Fr. William Cassis  
Proistamenos



Chris Chryssovergis  
President



Peter Aamodt  
Secretary