



METROPOLIS
OF DETROIT

HOLY TRINITY-ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Parish Council Meeting Minutes April 21, 2016

ATTENDANCE

Clergy: Fr. William Cassis, Fr. William Redmon.

Members present: Nick L. Sarakatsannis (Presiding), Matthew Neuendorf (Recording), Karen Aamodt, Justin Bates, Chris Chrysosovergis, Jim Gelis, David Greene, George Haralamos, Stacey Loukoumidis, Jessica Mavridoglou, Nektarios Papisavvas, and Peter Rodish.

Members absent: Christine Masella.

Parish Staff: Eugene Nicholas.

PRE-MEETING

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

MEETING

Call to order: Chris Chrysosovergis called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

President's remarks:

- Chris, standing in for Nick, passed on giving remarks.

Secretary's report:

- George moved to accept the minutes as amended and distributed online prior to the meeting, Nektarios seconded, and the motion passed.
- Received correspondence included the Shepherd's Staff, a thank-you letter from Metropolitan Nicholas on behalf of the Friends of the Metropolis, and a thank-you letter from Ron and Christine Masella.

Clergy remarks:

- Fr. Bill:
 - Holy Week is coming up soon. During the procession, when the choir comes down to join it, hold them back until the empty cross has passed. The tray schedule is included in our materials tonight.
 - Columbus Day weekend we will host the National Sisterhood of Presvyteres Board Meeting, which will include a continental breakfast after Sunday Liturgy.

- We should decide on our Clergy-Laity delegates. It will be Monday through Thursday, the 4th to the 7th of July. It will be \$650 per delegate, with \$189 per night for the hotel. Fr. Bill also suggested we send Fr. William as a non-voting delegate.
- Fr. William:
 - HOPE/JOY prepared their resurrection eggs. They are also planning a summer event but no May meeting. The event will hopefully fall in June or July.
 - GOYA's Lenten retreat went well. They dealt with encountering the secular world. Their May 27 picnic is coming up and will have officer elections.
 - The Oratorical Festival went well also.
 - Miami University OCF members and officers finally met with Fr. William, discussing politics and faith, apologetics, and Lent and Holy Week. Jim Raptis has been working with students at the University of Cincinnati and Xavier University to set up a chapter there.
 - Vacation Church School brochures will be ready to distribute after Pascha.

Treasurer's report:

- The Endowment Fund was back over \$1 million for March.
- The Capital Fund stands at \$55,868, the Line of Credit is at a \$37,000 balance (compared to \$102,000 at this point last year), and the checking account has a balance of \$26,900.
- Our current Stewardship income was sufficient to cover our basic operations for the first quarter.

Parish Administrator's report:

- Craig has been checking over our equipment, and he discovered problems with a compressor and a sump pump, both of which have now been fixed.
- Financially, we are in very good shape. If we have a normal Holy Week we will cover our ordinary expenses through May.
- The Capital Campaign has 124 families pledged for \$183,158, with an average pledge per family of \$1,477.
- The Panegyri poster is finished. We still need a parking chair and a co-chair for pastries. Pricing has been consistent overall, despite minor ups or downs, and we are evaluating an electronic payment option.
- We have a parishioner who wants to donate a vehicle to the Parish. Eugene suggested we discuss this under New Business.

President's Remarks Revisited:

- Nick, having arrived and resumed the gavel, said that he'd received a letter addressing security concerns on the church grounds, respecting a vehicle break-in several weeks ago. He suggested we discuss this under New Business.

Old Business:

- St. Nicholas Shrine:
 - Tabled.
- Palm Sunday Name Tag Day/Fellowship Sunday:
 - Tentatively moved to Mothers' Day, May 8.
- Agape Luncheon:
 - We have 140 RSVPs so far. The cut-off for reservations is this Sunday.

New Business:

- Clergy-Laity Delegates:
 - It will be July 4-7 in Nashville. Nick will go, as will Fr. Bill. Chris agreed to go provisionally.
 - Chris moved to assume the cost of sending Fr. William as a non-voting delegate for the duration of the event, Karen seconded, and the motion passed.
- Holy Week Trays:
 - Chris moved to pass single trays during Holy Week and to ask the presiding priest to encourage people to give as generously as possible, George seconded; Chris amended the motion as follows, excluding Palm Sunday to pass only a single tray during Holy Week, George accepted the amendment, the motion passed as amended.
- Used Car Donation:
 - The council determined that we will not accept a donation for a raffle.
- Security:
 - Nektarios moved to hire Springfield Township Police Department for 3 hours of security presence every Sunday, George seconded, and the motion passed. Eugene explained that he was able to arrange for additional security, both physical presence and drive-through patrols, for certain key Holy Week services.

Stewardship Report:

- Our current trend is very good. If we can continue this trajectory we will be able to meet our goal.
- Committee meetings will resume after Pascha.

Committee Reports:

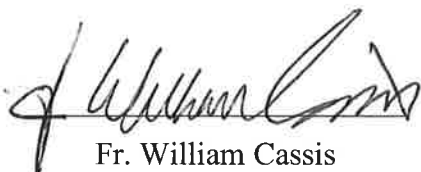
- Building Committee:
 - The contract is ready to sign. It will require the president and the treasurer, with the committee chair optional.
 - The committee will meet the week of May 15.
 - It will be necessary to solicit bids for audio/visual equipment and furniture.

ADJOURNMENT

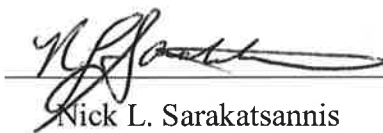
Call to adjourn: Jim moved to adjourn at 8:49.

Closing prayer: Fr. William offered the closing prayer.

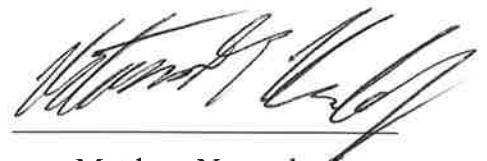
Approved as written,



Fr. William Cassis
Proistamenos



Nick L. Sarakatsannis
President



Matthew Neuendorf
Assistant Secretary