



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: goc7000@gmail.com

Parish Council Meeting Minutes December 15, 2016

ATTENDANCE

Clergy: Fr. Bill Cassis, Fr. William Redmon

Members present: Nick L. Sarakatsannis (Presiding), Justin Bates, Chris Chryssovergis, David Greene, George Haralamos, Stacey Loukoumidis, Jim Gelis, Christine Masella, Jessica Mavridoglou, Nektarios Papasavvas, and Karen Aamodt

Members absent: Matthew Neuendorf

Parish Staff: Eugene Nicholas

Guest: Bill Kanelopoulos

PRE-MEETING

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

MEETING

Call to order: Nick L. Sarakatsannis called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

President's remarks: Nick thanked everyone for being such a hard working team. David Greene gets the best Parish Council member award, as he is always present for all services. Nick felt it was a very successful year and he learned a lot. He hopes he met everyone's expectations. Nick thanked Fr. Bill for his service to the Parish.

Secretary's report: The meeting minutes from the November meeting were sent out via email. Stacey Loukoumidis moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Christine Masella. There was correspondence from The Winton Woods Riding Center staff - they thanked the parish for allowing them to host their annual Recognition dinner in the new multipurpose room.

Clergy remarks:

Fr. Bill: He discussed the Christmas schedule for Divine Liturgy being held Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. On January 1st Fr. Mark will preside over his first Divine Liturgy at Holy Trinity St. Nicholas. Fr. Bill thanked the Parish Council for our service and again for the wonderful

retirement dinner, expressing what an honor it was. He is very pleased with our accomplishments this year, including the multipurpose room renovation & enhanced stewardship. His heart will always call Holy Trinity-Saint Nicholas home.

Fr. William: HOPE/JOY-Christmas movie night was a success and we had a prize give away. GOYA caroling ministry is upcoming. The St. Nicholas's winter retreat will be in Louisville, KY. Fr. William thanked Fr. Bill for all his help in building up his confidence. He will miss him.

Treasurer's report: Justin Bates presented the Treasurer's report. The line of credit was paid off with the execution of the \$350,000 mortgage, as approved by the General Assembly, taken to pay off the multi-purpose room renovation.

Parish Administrator's report:

Building: A quote for the replacement stage curtain came in at \$1834. This was \$400 less than the quote we received two years ago. We still have funds left in our multipurpose room renovation budget. The floor in the multipurpose room requires constant maintenance to ensure it remains in good condition. This precipitated a discussion about purchasing a floor sander / cleaner. The best price identified for this item was \$6,272. There aren't enough funds in the renovation budget to cover this cost, but given the current cash flow position, it's a purchase the parish can afford and should make. There is currently \$6,100 remaining in the Contract Repair budget line item and \$9,000 in Emergency Repair budget line item. We are hoping to have the Choir room re-opened next week; the nursery is now open. Craig has been doing such a wonderful job getting all required tasks accomplished so we can return to normal.

Finance: The current balance at North Side general fund is \$38,900. This is \$32,000 more than at the same time last year. The Capital improvement fund is at \$87,084. This balance will be used to pay off the remaining amounts due with both Cousins (\$50,000) and Nor-Com (\$15,800). After paying these expenses, enough will remain in this account to cover the first trimester's loan payments. December's loan payment has already been made. Fr. Mark will be starting on January 1st; we have been in communication and I anticipate a smooth transition.

Old Business:

Community hall renovation – Kathy Francis found a bench design for the bishop's walk and front hallways. She also found some vases with olive branches which will be placed in the wells adjacent to the entry areas to the multipurpose room for aesthetics and to deter people from sitting on the windowsills. Pledges for the multipurpose room stand at \$376,000.

Vision Committee: Nektarios has seven people confirmed for the Vision committee. He would like to have 10-12 people, preferring only three as active Parish Council members. He will be approaching other people in the parish over the next weeks to round out the committee.

New Business:

Multipurpose room cleaner: Peter Rodish made a motion for Eugene to purchase the floor cleaner for the multipurpose room. It was seconded by Jim Gelis. Motion passed.

Building and premises safety: Nick S. brought up security concerns due recent breaks-ins in the church's parking lot. After discussions with the police, they stated that having police presence is the best approach to deter repeated incidents. Chris Chryssovergis made a motion of an amount not to exceed \$500 dollars for signage & faux cameras to act as a visual parking lot deterrent and as added security for the church. Stacey Loukoumidis seconded. The motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Stewardship: Peter Rodish presented the report. Stewardship received to date sits at \$432,776; this is the most the Parish has ever received and the year still has a few weeks for continued donations. The committee loves how we are moving/trending. Name tag day was well received; people seemed more open to participating. The team is targeting another Name tag day on January 8th to help Fr. Mark with his transition.

Outreach committee: St. Nicholas's Concert: Karen A. would like to thank everyone for their help at the reception. The attendance seemed lower this year. Jessica M. brought up the idea of considering an early start time to possibly encourage more families to attend as the Sunday late evening date may have deterred participation. A thank you was also extended to Bill for his presence at today's meeting as a new Parish Council member.

ADJOURNMENT

Call to adjourn: Jessica M. moved to adjourn at 8:13 p.m.

Closing prayer: Fr. William offered the closing prayer.

Approved as written,



Fr. William Cassis
Proistamenos



Nick L. Sarakatsannis
President



Christine Masella
Recording Secretary

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eff. 1-1-17