



METROPOLIS
OF DETROIT

HOLY TRINITY-ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Parish Council Meeting Minutes November 16, 2017

ATTENDANCE

Clergy: Fr. Mark Emroll.

Members present: Nick L. Sarakatsannis (Presiding), Matthew Neuendorf (Recording), Karen Aamodt, Justin Bates, Chris Chrysosvergis, Buzzy Gaz, David Greene, Bill Kanelopoulos, Stacey Loukoumidis, Dimitrios Makrozahopoulos, Jessica Mavridoglou, Nektarios Papasavvas.

Members absent: George Haralamos.

Parish Staff: Eugene Nicholas, Mr. Nick Tzetzis.

MEETING

Call to order: Nick L. Sarakatsannis called the meeting to order at 6:58 pm.

Fr. Mark led the council in the Service of Prayer for the Opening of the Parish Council.

President's remarks:

- Thank you for helping with the City Gospel Mission cooking.
- Be mindful of Narthex duties, especially before 9:30 on Sundays.

Secretary's report:

- Stacey moved to accept the minutes as distributed online, Dimitri seconded, the motion passed.
- Received correspondence included the Clergy Compensation Plan guidelines for 2018 from the Archdiocese Benefits Committee.

Clergy remarks:

- Fr. Mark:
 - Stewardship Sunday will be this Sunday. We will have materials in the Narthex. At the end of the Divine Liturgy, after the 40-day blessing, Father Mark will invite Dimitri to speak. Then he will call up PC members to turn in stewardship cards followed by parishioners. Then he will lead a prayer service. We will have a table at the international luncheon afterward. If parishioners do not have stewardship cards ready, then we will have some available for them to fill out. Also, if people do not wish to take their cards up themselves, then the PC should offer to do it for them.
 - Sunday will also be Election Day, so we will hold voting.

- St. Nicholas vespers will be in the evening. Fr. Mark requests that any Parish Council members, who are able, please attend on Tuesday the 5th of December at 6:30 PM.
- The Archdiocese allocation will be less than the budgeted amount for the next year.
- Mr. Nick's ordination is waiting a final determination by the Archdiocese before it can move forward.
- Fr. Mark will be away from December 26 to 30, as well as November 23rd and 24th.
- Mr. Nick
 - We have been implementing some of the new technologies that Mr. Nick mentioned last month.
 - Mr. Nick has begun to establish more personal connections with our programs and their members. He is trying to set up a meeting with the St. Sophia Mothers Club.
 - There have been a few calendar conflicts, so Fr. Mark and Mr. Nick are working on establishing a better scheduling process.
 - The last youth meeting discussed peace and included 5 minutes of silence. Spring scheduling has already begun. Mr. Nick is looking forward to summer camp.
 - We had quite a few baptisms and weddings this last month.

Treasurer's report:

- Last month ended with a balance of \$132,000 in our checking account, which is \$70,000 higher than it was at this time last year. The Capital Improvement Fund is back down to the minimum after making our November payment. The loan balance stands at \$309,000.
- Our October stewardship brought in \$37,000, which is \$8,000 higher than that same month last year. However, we remain \$15,000 behind our total from 2016.

Parish Administrator's report:

- Food Pantry
 - We have 350 families signed up for turkeys and 6 more on the waiting list. We should be able to distribute 350 turkeys. We are up around \$3,000 in cash donations for the food pantry and as of tonight have 333 turkeys. Once we are done on Monday, we need to collect for Christmas. For Thanksgiving, we only offer turkeys, but for Christmas, we provide an entire meal.
- Building
 - The insurance company sent us a list of recommendations. Anything the PC does not act upon will not be covered. Atkins and Stang gave us a quote of \$3,200 for our electrical work.

Old Business:

- City Gospel
 - We served 110 people and actually still took too much food, so they will be able to use the excess to supplement lunches over the next week. For next month we will be doing Santa goody boxes.

New Business:

- Clergy compensation.
 - Justin moved to adjust Fr. Mark's raise from the current 1.8% to 2.0% to be in line with the Archdiocese guidelines. Chris seconded. The motion passed.

Stewardship Report:

- Compared to this time in 2015 we are up significantly in both pledged commitments and stewardship received, but we are still down compared to last year. This month is tracking around \$8,000 ahead of November 2016, though the month is not yet over.

Committee Reports:

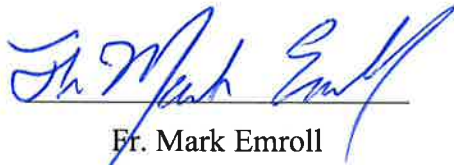
- Facilities
 - Nick spoke to Mr. Stang of Atkins and Stang, who suggested we choose what we want and then take bids from contractors to handle purchasing, installation, and maintenance. The facilities committee will consult with architect parishioners to figure out what would be best for the purpose of our Parish.
- Strategic Planning
 - We had the planned meeting, though attendance was light, and there was good discussion. We came up with many potential nominees for leaders for each aspect of our execution strategy. Next, we hope to get organization leaders to spread the word to their respective members. There will be an in-church presentation on December 3rd.

ADJOURNMENT

Call to adjourn: Justin moved to adjourn, Bill seconded. The motion passed.

Closing prayer: Fr. Mark led the closing prayer at 7:57 PM.

Approved as written,


Fr. Mark Emroll
Proistamenos


Nick L. Sarakatsannis
President


Matthew Neuendorf
Secretary