



METROPOLIS
OF DETROIT

HOLY TRINITY-ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Parish Council Meeting Minutes December 20, 2018

ATTENDANCE

Clergy: Fr. Mark Emroll

Pastoral Assistant: Mr. Nick Tzetzis

Members present: Nektarios Papasavvas (Presiding), Dimitrios Makrozahopoulos (Recording), Bill Kanelopoulos, Andy Stefanopoulos, Jessica Mavridoglou, Kim Lambrinides, Karen Aamodt, Ron Nichols, Sylvia Rombis

Members absent: Gus Koutsogiannis, Jay Williams, Buzzy Gaz, Eli Cassis

Guest: Peggy Kehayes (Parish Council Member-Elect)

Parish Staff: Eugene Nicholas

MEETING

Call to order: Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

Fr. Mark led the council in prayer.

President's remarks:

- Thanks and gratitude expressed to the Parish Council for their hard work, efforts and commitment to the Church throughout the year
- Important for those on and those who are about to come on to Parish Council to take responsibility of serving on it seriously
 - Serving on Parish Council is service to God

Secretary's report:

- Jessica moved to accept the November 2018 minutes, Kim seconded: the motion passed.
- Correspondence received
 - The Shepherd's Staff (Official Publication of the Metropolis of Detroit)
 - Christmas card from His Eminence, Metropolitan Nicholas

Clergy remarks:

Fr. Mark:

- Appreciation and gratitude to Parish Council for their time and efforts during Metropolitan Nicholas' pastoral visit to our Parish on Sunday, December 16
- The process and status of Mr. Nick's ordination is still in the hands of the Archdiocese
- Followup communication received from Louis Kircos from the Metropolis of Detroit regarding our parish's payment plan for our 2019 Parish Commitment to the Archdiocese
- Upcoming Church Services
 - **Monday, Christmas Eve, 12/24**
 - The Royal Hours of the Nativity – 10:00AM
 - Vesperal Divine Liturgy - 6PM
 - **Tuesday, Christmas Day, 12/25**
 - Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
 - Matins: 8:30AM, Divine Liturgy: 9:30AM
 - **Tuesday, New Year's Day, 1/1**
 - Circumcision of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and the Feast Day of Saint Basil the Great
 - Matins: 8:30AM, Divine Liturgy: 9:30AM
 - **Sunday, 1/6**
 - The Feast of the Theophany
 - **Parish Activities**: Vasilopita Sunday, Affirmation of 2019 Parish Council
- Expressed personal thanks and appreciation to the outgoing Parish Council members for their commitment and service to the Church (Karen Aamodt, Dimitrios Makrozahopoulos, Jessica Mavridoglou, Nektarios Papasavvas)

Pastoral Assistant Remarks:

Mr. Nick:

- Packed schedule for GOYA in January and February 2019 with multiple service-based activities (which can be referred to in the January 2019 issue of *The Voice*)
- Young Adult Ministry events scheduled for January and February 2019
- Livestreaming is up and going and generating positive feedback
- Our Parish will host of one of the Metropolis of Detroit's GOYA Lenten retreats (Central District) on Saturday, April 13
- Further discussion on **Digital (TV) Bulletin Board**, specifically focused on the cost and scope of the work and placement location
 - **Purpose**: Enhance the means of communication of Parish news & events

Treasurer's report:

Jessica Mavridoglou:

As of November 30, 2018

- **North Side – Checking (General Fund):** \$166,648
- **Capital Improvement Fund:** \$12,242
- **Endowment Fund:** \$1,239,452

November 2018

- **Total Income (Revenue):** \$46,591
 - **Stewardship** = \$34,521
- **Total Expense:** \$53,254
- **Net Income:** -\$6,663

Parish Administrator's report:

Eugene Nicholas:

- **Parish Outreach**
 - 300 Christmas meals prepared for the families that visit our food pantry
 - On Thursday, December 20, we distributed Christmas meals to 250 families
 - The plan is to distribute the remainder on Friday, December 21
- **Financial**
 - All remaining bills for 2018 have been paid
 - \$25,000 of the General Fund (Northside Checking) is allocated for the exterior lights
 - Even after that deduction from our checking account, our parish is still \$9,460 ahead of last year
 - As of December 20, 2018
 - **Northside Checking:** \$144,340 (vs. \$109,880 on December 20, 2017)
 - **Capital Improvement:** \$10,280 (vs. \$31,780 on December 20, 2017)
 - **Endowment Fund:** \$1,156,150 (vs. \$1,260,160 on December 20, 2017)
 - **Note:** Parish Council withdrew \$32,264 of \$43,019 available in 2018 for Capital Improvements, specifically for the Community Center Campaign
 - **Note:** \$46,279 is available for disbursement in 2019
- **Exterior Lighting**
 - Bollards and Lighting fixtures for the front of the building were installed on 12/19/18
 - The remaining fixtures are expected to arrive 1/3/19 and will also be installed
- **Community Center**
 - Still receiving radio station transmission/broadcast through the sound system
 - Contacted Nor-Com for help with this issue

Parish Administrator's report (contd.)

- **Church Lighting**
 - Received a quote for LED lights to replace the 10 remaining halogen bulbs in the Church for a total cost of \$6,750
 - There is no plan currently to replace the halogen bulbs with LEDs
- **Exterior Walls**
 - Craig power washed the front entrance to the Church
 - During the power washing, Craig found a couple of cracks in the copper roof where the water runs to the drain
 - Repair company will be coming to solder the cracks
 - Once completed Craig will do a more thorough cleaning on the walls

Unfinished Business:

- Emergency Response Plan
 - Nektarios to follow-up with Buzzy about looking into **IOCC Homefront** for reference purposes

New Business:

- **Digital (TV) Bulletin Board**
 - Andy made a motion to purchase and install at a cost not to exceed \$700
 - Ron seconded. The motion passed
- **Housing Allowance for Clergy**
 - Portion of the Salary that is classified as Housing Allowance
 - Ron made a Motion for \$35,000 to be allocated/classified as such
 - Andy seconded. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

- **Greeter Ministry**

Ron Nichols:

 - Detailed approach and responsibilities for the Greeter Ministry program developed
 - Stressed the importance of the greeter role (in the bookstore hallway location) and the importance of Parish Council support (in the main entrance to the Narthex)
 - Stressed the importance of visitor engagement
 - *“Greeters are the key element in establishing a lasting good first impression. This will also provide visitors with some insight into who we are and what our values are as a welcoming Orthodox Christian community.”*
 - Discussed greetings approaches with individuals, small groups and large groups, along with an emphasis on encouraging visitors to attend coffee/fellowship hour
- **Stewardship (Dimitrios Makrozahopoulos)**
 - Heartfelt thank you to everyone who has written an article in 2018 for The Voice on their personal thoughts on what Stewardship means to them and how it matters in their life

Stewardship (contd.)

- Stewardship Snippet from Sunday, December 16, touched on how Stewardship is more than just money, while also pointing out that *money is not really about money*
 - **Money and its use are indicators of spiritual health**
 - The act of deliberately acknowledging God as the source of our money and returning it back to him *as an act of worship* draws our heart closer to Him
 - Our offerings to God resource the work of His Church on earth, and help us in our journey of being transformed and becoming more and more like Him

- **2018 Stewardship Goal: \$500,000**
 - **Note: 2019 Stewardship Goal is \$505,000**

- Through Saturday, 12/15/18:
 - **2018 Number of Stewards that have given: 553**
 - **Note:** Number of Stewards through 12/15/17 that had given was 554

 - **2018 Total Stewardship Received: \$416,403**
 - **Note:** Total Stewardship received through 11/15/17 was \$427,998
 - Total Stewardship received is down \$11,595 (2.7% Decrease)

 - **2019 Stewardship Pledged Commitments: \$214,683**
 - **Number of Individuals/Families: 159**
 - **Note:** Number of Stewardship Pledged Commitments for 2018 through 12/15/17 that had given was \$174,354

 - **Note:** Number of Individuals/Families that pledged a Stewardship Commitment for 2018 through 12/15/17 was 136

ADJOURNMENT

Call to adjourn: Andy moved to adjourn. Kim seconded. The motion passed.

Closing prayer: Fr. Mark led the closing prayer at 9:12PM

Approved as written,



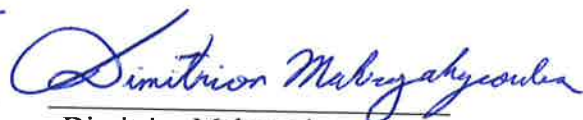
Fr. Mark Emroll

Proistamenos



Nektarios Papasavvas

President



Dimitrios Makrozahopoulos

Secretary