



# HOLY TRINITY-ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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## Parish Council Meeting Minutes January 18, 2018

### ATTENDANCE

**Clergy:** Fr. Mark Emroll

**Pastoral Assistant:** Mr. Nick Tzetzis

**Members present:** Nektarios Papasavvas (Presiding), Dimitrios Makrozahopoulos (Recording), Andy Stefanopoulos, Karen Aamodt, William “Buzzy” Gaz, Bill Kanelopoulos, Jessica Mavridoglou, Kim Lambrinides, Jay Williams, Sylvia Rombis

**Members absent:** None

**Parish Staff:** Eugene Nicholas

### MEETING

**Call to order:** Nektarios Papasavvas called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

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

#### **President’s remarks:**

- It is an honor and privilege to serve as Parish Council President.
- Parish Council Officers Meeting will take place just prior to Parish Council Meeting
- Narthex Schedule for Parish Council members is available and posted
- Parish Council will strive to be an actively engaged Parish Council
- Parish Council presence on Committees is important.

#### **Secretary’s report:**

- Buzzy moved to accept the December 2017 minutes as revised, Jessica seconded: motion passed.
- No correspondence received

#### **Clergy remarks:**

*Fr. Mark:*

- **Minutes of the Special Parish Council Meeting on 1/7/18 for the Election of 2018 Parish Council Officers)**
  - Karen moved to accept the minutes as written, Buzzy seconded: motion passed
- Conflicts Disclosure Policy required by the Archdiocese for all Parish Council members was distributed to all Parish Council Members (to be read, signed and turned in)

- Parish Vasilopita Cutting Ceremony on Sunday, 1/7/18 was wonderful.
- Mr. Nick's ordination process continues to move forward
  - There is regular contact with His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas.
  - All the necessary paperwork for Mr. Nick's ordination has been submitted to the Archdiocese in NY
  - As we move toward Great & Holy Lent (which begins on 2/19/18), if there is no ordination date determined, Parish Council will formally reach out to the Metropolis of Detroit and request an additional clergy member to assist during services during Holy Week (beginning Lazarus Saturday through Pascha)
- Metropolis of Detroit is in very good financial health, has no financial debt or issues, and there is full transparency
  - **Friends of the Metropolis Program**
    - Over \$200,000 received in 2017
      - This is the greatest amount received since the program's inception
- Very excited by the work of the Strategic Planning Committee
- Study Group with St. Sophia Mother's Club begins on Tuesday, 1/30/18
  - The book being discussed is "*Parenting towards the Kingdom*"
- Godparent Sunday is on 2/4/18 (No Sunday Church School)
  - St. Sophia Mothers Club will be sponsoring a reception
- **Spring General Assembly to be held on Sunday, 2/11/18**
- Thanksgiving 2018 Outreach
  - Thanksgiving Meals will be served at the Church (Thursday, 11/22/18)

**Pastoral Assistant Remarks:**

*Mr. Nick:*

- **GOYA**
  - Theophany Game Night on 1/6/18
    - There were 25 members of GOYA at the Richardson's house
  - Basketball Tournament in Dayton from 2/16-2/18
  - Lenten retreat at Holy Trinity-St. Nicholas on Saturday, 3/3/18
  - **CROSSROAD**
    - 10 day intensive program at Hellenic College for High School Juniors/Seniors
    - Only 32 students per session (2 Sessions: 1 in Boston, 1 in Chicago)
    - Applications due 2/1/18
- **HOPE & JOY**
  - Supplies needed for crafts
  - In talks with Religious Education Team (RET) & St. Sophia's Mother's Club to enhance and utilize space for meetings/events
- **Technology – Audio Improvements**
  - Going HD with LiveStream (New Camera, New Computers)
    - Approximate cost of \$3,500
  - Feedback welcomed on how we can better utilize and enhance our technology

**Treasurer's report:**

- Approximately \$72,000 in the General Fund
- Approximately \$28,900 in the Capital Improvement Fund
- Balance on Capital Improvement Loan is just under \$300,000
  - Monthly Payment for Capital Improvement is approx. \$4,700
  - Interest Rate is currently 3.75% (**fixed**) on the Loan
    - The interest rate will change to a variable interest rate in December 2018
- \$60,000 more in Checking Account in 2017 compared to 2016
- Strong Stewardship Year in 2017
  - Stewardship received in December 2017 was over \$54,000
- Overall there was less income in 2017, but that was offset by less spending in 2017
  - Net Income in 2017: \$142,799

**Parish Administrator's report:**

- **Outreach**
  - Holiday Outreach Program assisted more than 350 families
    - Raised over \$3,000 in monetary donations
  - Food Pantry and Kroger Rewards
    - All proceeds from the Kroger Reward Program benefit our Food Pantry.
    - If we increase participation, it greatly benefits our pantry.
- **Building**
  - New glass white boards are in for the Sunday Church School
    - Old boards are in the process of being removed
  - Roof leak on the North Side of the Sanctuary
    - This has been an ongoing issue with no visible root cause. We will be looking at it more closely as weather permits.
- **Finance**
  - We have sent our half-year fair share for 2018 to the Archdiocese (\$48,500)
  - Ground Maintenance will be higher in January 2018 compared to last year
    - In 2017, we had no snow removal: only salting of parking lot and sidewalks.
    - Snow plowing was budgeted in 2018 ("Planned expense" in the budget)
- **Panegyri (Festival)**
  - We will be signing a 1 year agreement with Kissel Bros. Shows to handle the rides
  - Sylvia Rombis volunteered to help with the design of our 2018 Panegyri poster

**New Business:**

- **Appointment of Parish Council Members**
  - 4 Names submitted for Consideration (3 open seats)
    - Ron Nichols, Lew Parsenios, Eli Cassis, Kostas Koutsogiannis
  - Provisions/by-laws calls for election by Parish Council by secret ballot
  - Results of Secret Ballot:
    - 3 Appointees are: Ron Nichols, Eli Cassis, Kostas Koutsogiannis
- **Endowment Fund Distribution**
  - *“The purpose of the Fund is to create a trust which will provide financial support and security for the growth and development of the Holy Trinity-St. Nicholas Church, including the Church and any buildings on the property...”*
    - Up to \$43,019.66 is available for withdrawal in 2018
- **2018 Clergy Housing Allowance**
  - Allocation/Designation for \$35,000 for Fr. Mark Emroll (same as 2017)
  - Motion by Dimitrios, seconded by Jessica: motion passed

**Committee Reports:**

- **Stewardship**
  - Thank you to everyone for their generous giving of their time, talent and treasure:  
**It Makes a Difference!**
  - Thank you for another strong Stewardship Year in 2017
    - **\$457,936 received in Stewardship Donations in 2017**
  - Stewardship Committee will meet on Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> @ 5:30PM at the Church: all are welcome!
- **Strategic Planning**
  - People who have been approached about and are interested in Leadership Roles in the 3 Pillars of Education, Engagement and Outreach include Brad Fielden, Trish Fielden, Lou Mesisklis, Matthew Francis. Joanne Georgostathis, Maria Meyer and Ron Nichols

**ADJOURNMENT**

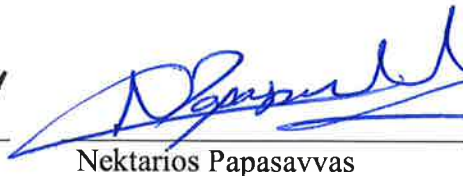
**Call to adjourn:** Jay moved to adjourn. Andy seconded. The motion passed.

**Closing prayer:** Fr. Mark led the closing prayer at 8:44 PM.

Approved as written,

  
Fr. Mark Emroll

Proistamenos



Nektarios Papasavvas

President



Dimitrios Makrozahopoulos

Secretary