

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: htsnchurch.org • Email: office@htsnchurch.org

Parish Council Meeting Minutes January 17, 2019

ATTENDANCE

Clergy: Fr. Mark Emroll.

Members present: Andy Stefanopoulos (Presiding), Matthew Neuendorf (Recording), Eli Cassis, Bill Kanelopoulos, Kim Lambrinides, Gus Lazares, Sylvia Rombis, Jay Williams.

Members absent: Buzzy Gaz, Peggy Kehayes, Gus Koutsogiannis, Ron Nichols.

Parish Staff: Eugene Nicholas, Nick Tzetzis.

MEETING

Call to order: Andy Stefanopoulos called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

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

President's remarks:

- Andy Stefanopoulos:
 - Thanks you to everyone who is willing to serve on the Parish Council. Thanks especially to Gus for joining and to Matthew for returning.
 - This year we need to focus on continuing to grow our stewardship with the goal of fully funding parish operations through stewardship alone.
 - We also need to do everything that we can to facilitate Mr. Nick's ordination.

Secretary's report:

- Eli moved to accept the minutes from the special council meeting to elect officers, Jay seconded, the motion passed.
- Eli moved to accept the December minutes as distributed online, Kim seconded, the motion passed.
- Received correspondence included a thank-you letter from Metropolitan Nicholas for our name day gift to him.

Clergy remarks:

- Fr. Mark:
 - Thank you to everyone who is giving of their time and talent for the important ministry of serving on the Parish Council.

- We had a meeting with available Parish Council members during the Metropolitan's visit. We continue to anticipate an answer regarding Mr. Nick's ordination from the Archdiocese.
- Thank you to everyone who assisted with services during the Christmas holiday season, including Christmas, New Years, and Epiphany.
- On February 4, 5, and 6 Fr. Mark will be away for the Clergy Brotherhood Pre-Lenten Retreat in Michigan. He will also be on vacation February 15-19.

Pastoral Assistant remarks:

- Mr. Nick
 - HOPE and JOY ministries are going well.
 - We have scheduled Vacation Church School in early June rather than the middle of July.
 - GOYA had a very busy January and will continue to do so, remaining busy through February.
 - We will be hosting one of three Metropolis Lenten Retreats in April, so any parishes in the region that wish will be invited to attend.
 - The Young Adults had an event in the former nursery that has been expanded for greater functionality. Game Night was fun and the space will be further developed to continue to expand its usefulness.
 - OCF will be hosting the Great Lakes Regional Retreat at this parish on March 29-30, Friday and Saturday, which will involve a speaker and students from as far away as New York state and throughout the region.
 - Our digital bulletin board project is going well.
 - The grant proposal project will advance at the next strategic planning committee meeting. We will be looking to set up a framework for parish youth and young adult ministries to write innovating grant proposals for disbursement of a portion of endowment funds that are available for allocation.
 - Our livestream is continuing to do well and a lot of users have shifted to Facebook, which saves us money.

Treasurer's report:

- Kim Lambrinides
 - The North Side Checking balance is around \$27,000 higher than it was in December of the prior year.
 - The Capital Improvement Fund is down by around \$20,000 due to loan payments.
 - The Endowment Fund is down by around \$110,000 in large part due to market changes, though we also used a disbursement to pay down our loan.
 - Expenses for 2018 were higher by around \$20,000 compared to 2017 due to the exterior lighting project.
 - Our net income for last year was around \$24,000 and our cash flow was positive despite stewardship not making budget.
 - Our loan payments are slightly ahead of schedule and we are still making payments from the Capital Improvement Fund rather than other sources.

Parish Administrator's report:

- Eugene Nicholas
 - Exterior Lighting is around 30% complete. Delays are due to the late arrival of parts. The lights on the building itself are mostly changed but with the pole lights we have encountered a problem. Our vendor has a solution and should be able to install everything in a single day.
 - The HVAC on the Sunday Church School wing had a crack in the heat exchange, but it was covered under warranty and only cost us \$1,400.
 - The copper roof at the entrance to the Narthex has been inspected. Two cracks on each side are larger than we thought. The drains need to be fixed, which has been schedule, the drains need to be jetted, and Holland Roofing needs to caulk it, which should not be very expensive. The sanctuary roof leaks have a temporary patch which Holland is waiting to replace with a permanent one once the weather improves a bit in the spring.
 - We distributed 292 hams over Christmas. We now have better shelving as well as enough stores and funds to keep the pantry running for several months.
 - We are in excellent financial shape, slightly ahead of where we began last year, even after accounting for our fair share contribution to the Archdiocese at the start of 2018.
 - We are down to \$8,000 in the Capital Improvement Fund. This is not enough to cover two payments. It would be beneficial to pay off the loan in its entirety by year's end due to variable rates kicking in.
 - Hall rentals are up significantly. Over the past year it came in at double the budgeted amount.

Unfinished Business:

- Archdiocese Allocation Payments
 - Our annual allocation this year is \$98,100. If we pay it in two payments we are discounted 1%. If we pay it in a single payment we are discounted 2%.
 - Bill moved to pay our allocation on a monthly basis, Jay seconded, the motion passed.

New Business:

- Appointment of a Parish Council member:
 - We have only heard from one candidate, Gus Poneris.
 - Kim moved to appoint Gus Poneris to the Parish Council, Eli seconded, the motion passed.

Stewardship Report:

- The total number of stewards and the total income have been steady year over year. Over the last four years, stewardship has been generally increasing and has not dropped below \$450,000, and pledges have been increasing significantly as well.

- This year our early and effective stewardship kick-off has us up slightly in percent pledged toward our goal, the number of stewards who have pledged, and the total amount pledged.

Committee Reports:


- Each council member should find one or more committees on which they would like to serve.

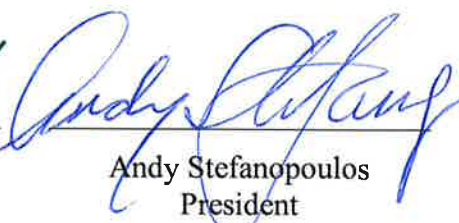
ADJOURNMENT


Call to adjourn: Bill moved to adjourn, Eli seconded, the motion passed.

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

Approved as written,


Fr. Mark Emroll
Proistamenos


Andy Stefanopoulos
President


Matthew Neuendorf
Secretary