



METROPOLIS  
OF DETROIT

# HOLY TRINITY-ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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## Parish Council Meeting Minutes November 21, 2019

### ATTENDANCE

**Clergy:** Fr. Mark Emroll

**Pastoral Assistant:** Mr. Nick Tzetzis

**Members present:** Andy Stefanopoulos (Presiding), Matthew Neuendorf (Recording), Eli Cassis, Buzzy Gaz, Bill Kanelopoulos, Peggy Kehayes, Kim Lambrinides, Gus Lazares, Gus Poneris, Sylvia Rombis

**Members absent:** Gus Koutsogiannis, Ron Nichols, Jay Williams

**Parish Staff:** Eugene Nicholas

### MEETING

**Call to order:** Andy Stefanopoulos called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

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

#### **President's remarks:**

- Andy Stefanopoulos
  - No remarks except that his grandson was chosen for the All Southwest Ohio First Team in football.

#### **Secretary's report:**

- Buzzy Gaz moved to accept the September minutes as distributed online, Eli Cassis seconded, the motion passed.
- We had no received correspondence.

#### **Clergy remarks:**

- Fr. Mark
  - Thank you to everyone who was able to come out and support the program with Father George Parsenios last Saturday. It was a wonderful and engaging presentation on the hymnography of the Church. We had nearly 60 people who attended. We also enjoyed his presence with us last Sunday. This was a product of the Education Pillar of the Strategic Planning Committee and the Stewardship Committee.
  - Father spoke with John Tonelli of Tonelli Studios, who provided some renderings, which the Beautification Committee will discuss. John said that he would like to come out to see the space and to talk things over and look through any materials we might already have.
  - The ordination of Mr. Nick to the Diaconate is scheduled for his birthday, November 30. We plan on hosting ten clergy, including Metropolitan Savas, on Friday and Saturday. Metropolitan Nicholas should be represented by his Deacon Bryce. Orthros will start at 8.

- St. Nicholas Vespers is at 6:30 PM on December 5 and there will be a Divine Liturgy the next day.
- December 15 is the Sunday Church School Christmas Pageant.
- Father will be away from December 26 to January 3, with Father Andrew Walsh serving as his substitute.
- Next Wednesday is our annual Thanksgiving meal. We expect around 250 guests, about 150 more than last year. Stephanie Diaz and Chris Diaz are coordinating. There is a Sign-Up Genius for volunteers. We have also begun to take order for Christmas hams.

**Pastoral Assistant remarks:**

- Mr. Nick
  - Youth ministries are all going well. GOYA's Boston trip will be pushed back to Fall of 2020 to accommodate the Metropolitan Summer Camp. GOYA will focus on having a hefty Lenten retreat here and at Camp Kern, coordinating regionally with Dayton and Carmel, which Mr. Nick anticipates will involve them asking the Council for financial support. We will be requesting a small financial commitment from each participant in party to "lock in" attendance, but financial support should cover most costs. The retreat will be from April 3 to 5.
  - The Youth Protection Plan is in sign-up mode.
  - The rest of the Youth Ministries are going great.
  - Thanks to everyone for 27 months of patience waiting for ordination while still accomplishing so many things.

**Treasurer's report:**

- Kim Lambrinides
  - Our current checking balance is \$170,500, our balance at this time last year was \$170,669.
  - The mortgage loan is at \$61,000.

**Parish Administrator's report:**

- Eugene Nicholas
  - Building
    - The power wash and seal for all buildings is complete. Weather has not been cooperating, so it took a little longer than expected. The company will be cleaning all the windows, both interior and exterior. The window screens on the office building are falling apart, so he will re-screen everything for us at no extra charge.
    - The cleaning of the Narthex ceiling and is mostly done. We will need to repaint sometime after Christmas. The main complication will be the stairs to the choir loft, due to how awkward it will be to access the ceiling there.
  - Thanksgiving Outreach Dinner
    - Please make every effort to help with this Outreach Ministry. On the day of, try to be there by 3 PM so that you can be trained as a group. Gus Poneris can use help in the kitchen with prep on Monday and Tuesday. Please contact Gus if you can help on either day.
  - Ordination Luncheon
    - Gus Poneris will need a few people to help in the kitchen. Eugene will need about 8 people to help serve. There will be two buffet lines, with 4 workers per side. GOYA will be serving the head table.

- Broadcast
  - Mr. Nick has done a lot to improve our online service broadcast. Our current stream service contract ends on November 30. We hope to be fully integrated on YouTube and Facebook by then.
- Christmas Card
  - Email Eugene as soon as possible if you want to be on the annual Christmas card. The deadline is December 2 and the donation of \$30.00.

**New Business:**

- Building Preservation
  - We enlisted the number one brick restoration company in the city and got a quote just under \$70,000 for fixing cracks and tuck-pointing the exterior brick walls. We had two additional companies to come out and evaluate the project, but we are still waiting on their quotes. This project will likely take place in spring due to weather necessities. Some of our leaks may be due to cracks in mortar or caulking. Spot sealing will likely be necessary in any patched areas.
  - Gus Lazares moved to hold the \$70,000 from the incoming bequest from going to the Endowment Fund and place it in the Capital Improvement Fund in anticipation of fixing the exterior Walls. Eli Cassis seconded. The motion passed.
- Honoraria
  - Buzzy Gaz moved to direct \$1,000 as honorarium to Metropolitan Savas and \$500 each for the two deacons who will be attending Mr. Nick's ordination. Kim Lambrinides seconded. The motion passed.

**Stewardship Report:**


- Bill Kanelopoulos
  - 2019 commitments are at \$415,190, which is significantly higher than this time last year. Receipts are also up from this time last year. We crossed \$400,000 received five days earlier than we did in our record year.
  - The hymnography presentation went very well. Thank you to everyone who helped.


**ADJOURNMENT**


**Call to adjourn:** Eli Cassis moved to adjourn, Gus Lazares seconded, the motion passed.

**Closing prayer:** Fr. Mark led the closing prayer at 8:32 PM.

Approved as written,

  
Fr. Mark Emroll  
Proistamenos

  
Andy Stefanopoulos  
President

  
Matthew Neuendorf  
Secretary