



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: [www.holytrinity.oh.goarch.org](http://www.holytrinity.oh.goarch.org) • Email: [goc7000@gmail.com](mailto:goc7000@gmail.com)

### Spring 2017 General Assembly Meeting Minutes February 26, 2017

#### ATTENDANCE

**Clergy:** Fr. Mark Emroll, Fr. William Redmon

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

**Parish Council Members absent:**

**Parish Staff:** Eugene Nicholas.

**Parishioners:** 67 voting members present, more than necessary for a quorum

#### MEETING

**Call to order:** Nick L. Sarakatsannis called the meeting to order at 12:22 PM.

**Opening Prayer:** Father Mark gave the opening prayer.

**Election of Chairperson:** Andy Stefanopoulos nominated Nick J. Sarakatsannis to serve as chairman. He accepted. Nominations closed, and Nick was elected.

#### **Minutes of October 19, 2014 Fall General Assembly Meeting:**

- The minutes of the prior General Assembly were posted publicly. Lew Assaley moved to suspend the rules, dispense with the reading of the minutes, and accept the minutes as posted on the website and bulletin board. Lewis Parsenios seconded. The motion passed.

#### Reports:

##### **President's Report:**

- Nick welcomed Fr. Mark to his first General Assembly at Holy Trinity-Saint Nicholas
- We have accomplished much since our last Assembly, including saying farewell to Fr. Bill and welcoming Fr. Mark, completing our Large Hall renovation project, and achieving a record year for Stewardship under the leadership of Peter Rodish and Justin Bates
- We have arranged for a police officer to watch over our parking lot each Sunday. We have had break-ins in our parking lot, including at a Parish Council meeting last November. We are taking security very seriously and are looking at solutions, but the best and simplest precaution is not to have anything visible on the seats of your vehicles.

### **Clergy Reports:**

- **Fr. Mark:**

- Father and Presvytera Ginny are so very grateful for the warm welcome that they have received at this Parish and in this community
- Thanks to all the parishioners and the Parish Council
- Father is continuing to reach out to our parish organizations, groups, and ministries
- Thanks also to Fr. William and Presvytera Elizabeth; having Fr. William as an assistant is a great blessing
- As we approach Great and Holy Lent, we should all try to avail ourselves of the various services offered, which are wonderful opportunities for us to make an extra effort to focus on our Lenten journey to Pascha

- **Fr. William:**

- Thanks to Peggy Kehayes for her help with REAL (formerly the YAL); they held an event at Dave and Busters, and plan to refine the structure of the group throughout the year
- HOPE/JOY had their Christmas program, which included a showing of A Charlie Brown Christmas
- GOYA Taverna Night was successful and GOYA is thankful for the support of the Parish; the basketball tournament went extremely well with both a boys and a girls team placing second and making it to the finals, with a fellowship event held here afterward followed by a visit to the Newport Aquarium; they have a retreat approaching on March 18 with a Lazer Craze event to follow; officer nominations will open at the retreat, and elections will be at the next big meeting
- Vacation Church School dates will be July 17-21 and information will be sent out shortly; thanks to the chair Stephanie Bottomley and the rest of the staff
- Summer Camp will be held July 23-9; we used to have heavy participation, then it fell off completely, and last year we had decent attendance; we hope this year to have even more; we have one counselor from this Parish already and are always looking for more
- Father wished to express his gratitude to Fr. Mark and Presvytera Ginny

### **Treasurer's Report:**

- We were over budget last year for our net revenue, largely due to Eugene's cost control efforts
- Panegyri was over budget for net revenue as well despite a bad Friday, again largely due to Eugene
- We nearly met our increased Stewardship budget thanks to a record-setting year
- Building and maintenance were well below budget likely thanks to a mild winter
- We had a positive net cash flow of \$56,635
- We completed our renovation project and took a loan, payments will appear as our monthly expense at \$43,00
- The Line of Credit remains empty
- Our loan balance stands at \$342,200
- The last Endowment Fund balance was \$1.1 million

### **Stewardship report:**

- We had a record year in 2016
- This year, year-to-date, we are slightly behind last year in amounts pledged, pledges received, and in number of people who have pledged
- We changed our pledge card to put greater emphasis on time and talent offerings
- The committee has a new co-chair: George Haralamos

- We are always open to suggestions from the Parish and encourage parishioners to participate in the committee

**Panegyri Report:**

- Planning started pretty much right at the end of the prior year
- Eugene has asked some younger parishioners to design a new poster; if anyone has or knows someone who has graphic design experience or talent who wishes to contribute, please contact Eugene
- The leadership team will be the same as last year, with Chris Chryssovergis as Eugene's co-chair
- We only need one final chairperson, and not for parking; Yiayia's Mezethakia needs a chair
- We are eliminating the trip raffle as part of our parish's movement away from raffle-based fundraising
- We will be moving some booths around this year
- The St. Nicholas Shrine booth will be in the same place, but Eugene is looking for additional leadership for it
- Each year our volunteer base shrinks even as the festival grows; we need volunteers before, during, and after the festival, and if we don't get more younger ones then as people leave we will lose their skills if they aren't able to pass them on
- We will likely establish a sign-up for tzatziki cupping
- Any position we don't fill with volunteers we will be forced to hire somebody
- Thanks to everyone who offers time or talent to keep Panegyri running, it could not happen without your help

**Old Business:**

**Strategic Planning Committee:**

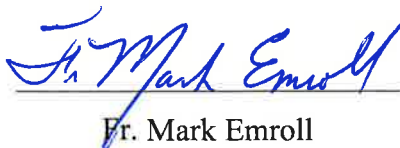
- The goal is to define our future and set a path for how to get there
- First, we must establish a mission both within the Parish and within the greater community: to proclaim, preserve, and practice the Orthodox Christian Faith, to glorify God, serve our community, and grow our Parish for the salvation of all
- Then we need a vision to help us understand where we are going in the context of that mission
- Afterward, we will need a strategy for how to implement the vision; strategy is all about execution
- We have a core team working on these things, but implore anyone who wishes to contribute in any way to do so

**Adjournment**

**Call to adjourn:** Lew Assaley moved to adjourn.

**Closing prayer:** Fr. William gave the closing prayer. The meeting ended at 1:05 PM.

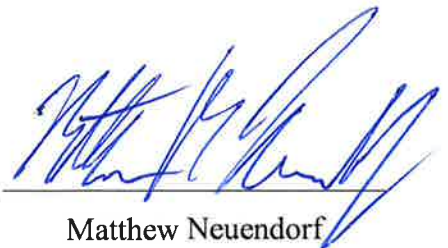
Approved as written,



Fr. Mark Emroll  
Proistamenos



Nick L. Sarakatsannis  
President



Matthew Neuendorf  
Secretary