



METROPOLIS  
OF DETROIT

# HOLY TRINITY-ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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## **Parish Council Meeting Minutes August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

### **ATTENDANCE**

**Clergy:** Fr. Bill Cassis

**Members present:** Nick L. Sarakatsannis (Presiding), Justin Bates, Karen Aamodt, Chris Chryssovergis, David Greene, Stacey Loukoumidis, Jim Gelis, Christine Masella, Matthew Neuendorf, Jessica Mavridoglou, Nektarios Papasavvas, and Peter Rodish

**Members absent:** Fr. William Redmon, George Haralamos

**Parish Staff:** Eugene Nicholas

### **PRE-MEETING**

**Opening Prayer:** Fr. Bill gave the opening prayer at the fellowship meal preceding the meeting.

### **MEETING**

**Call to order:** Nick L. Sarakatsannis called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**President's remarks:** Nick thanked everyone for all their hard work and attention to duties in the Narthex. He was honored to be able to go to the Clergy laity. The theme this year was "You are the voice of Christ in a changing world." Orthodoxy in America is interesting in that we have not tried to spread yet we've still grown, and we only have a single Orthodox college in the Hellenic College/Holy Cross. The Clergy Laity was like a giant Parish Council meeting, 500+ priests and so many laity and kids and others. Archbishop Demetrios was there and spoke exceedingly well. Nick believes we should give a nice monetary donation to Fr. Chris Metropulos when he comes to speak regarding fundraising efforts for Hellenic College.

**Secretary's report:** The June minutes went out a little late, minutes with corrections were distributed via email, Jessica Mavridoglou moved to accept minutes as corrected, Jim Gelis seconded, motion passed. We received correspondence, thank you letter from Lydia Loukoumidis, as well as, the Shepherd's Staff newsletter.

### **Clergy remarks:**

Fr. Bill: He stated eighteen to twenty Presvyteras will be here for National Sisterhood representatives meeting on Columbus Day weekend. Presvytera Anastasia will be hosting them. Fr. Bill suggested Parish Council cover the costs of some meals on behalf of our Parish (lunch and dinner

Saturday). Hellenic College fundraiser coming up, Fr. Chris Metropulos will be presenting the weekend of September 24/25<sup>th</sup>, and will hopefully also be able to address the entire community in the new community center. Fr. Chris is hoping to boost support for the college and seminary. Fr. Bill encouraged us to find a way to offer a reasonable gift to the school, being mindful of the direct benefits that it has offered to us, especially by way of the learning priests who have been such a blessing to our Parish.

**Treasurer's report:** Justin Bates presented the Treasurer's report. Our Parish has completed its donation supporting the St. Nicholas National Shrine. We donated \$13,000 over two years, \$3,000 of which came directly from community participation via our St. Nicholas Shrine booth at the Panegyri. The Endowment Fund is up \$30,000 and now sits at \$1,078,826.

**Parish Administrator's report:** Eugene Nicholas reported that the two leaks in the sanctuary appear to be continuing, and we seem to have a leak in the office roof now as well. Holland Roofing will be coming out to check it over again. The Sunday Church School wing needs to be repainted and repaired, but the job is too big for Craig. Pastrimas painting is willing to donate a large amount of the cost and to use Craig to assist them, but it will still cost \$13,000. Excluding the stairwells from the project deducted another \$2,400 from the project total, bringing the cost down to \$10,600. Eugene reported this may seem expensive, but noted there is significant repair work required to prep the walls for painting.

**Finance:** Year-over-year, ordinary revenue is up approximately \$50,000 and fundraising revenue is down around \$27,000. Total income is up \$2,000 even with the removal of the car raffle. The year-over-year contract repair expenses are up \$17,000, mostly due to plumbing, but \$20,000 remains in the budget for the balance of the year. Finally, year-over-year total expenses are up around \$9,000. There's \$100,000 in available cash, primarily driven by the 4th most profitable Panegyri (59.2%) which generated \$242,000 in net profit (\$9,500 over budget). This positive cash flow is \$93,500 more than at the same point last year. The availability of cash at this time precludes the need to tap the line-of-credit. The capital improvement fund has sufficient funds to cover the first building renovation bill.

**Church picnic:** 2-3 Parish Council members need to volunteer to help with setup and supplies. It will be hosted at Stricker's Grove, on Sunday, September 4th from 2:00-9:00 p.m. Hamburgers, hot dogs, buns and condiments have been donated. Craig has volunteered to help cook.

### **Old Business:**

- **Community hall renovation-** Jim Gelis provided the update. A change order was issued from the architect, increasing the cost of the project \$9,795. The changes include - deducting money for opting against fire-rated glass, adding money for floor adhesive removal and ductwork improvement. To recess and automatically close the fire-rated doors, as required, will cost \$10-18,000. Alternatively a fire shutter can be installed for around \$4,500 (which is being pursued now given it's a more cost-effective option). There is a potentially significant schedule delay as the contractor ordered the wrong light fixtures. The inappropriate management of the custom lighting will negatively impact both project budget and scope. The revised estimate for project completion is now projected for mid to late-October. The contractor ordered the wrong light fixtures and it will not cost the Parish, but there will be a delay, which looks to be significant.

- **Facebook page:** no further updates
- **National sisterhood of Presvyteres Conference:** Chris Chryssovergis moved to cover 1 lunch and 1 dinner with an amount not to exceed \$1,500, Jim Gelis seconded, motion passed

**New Business:**

- Chris Chryssovergis moved to rescind the 5% redistribution of gross Panegyri revenue to the building fund back to the general fund, Matthew Neuendorf seconded, motion passed
- **Sunday Church School building painting:** Matthew Neuendorf moved to accept the proposal to paint the Sunday Church School classrooms and repair the walls, at a cost of 10,600, Karen Aamodt seconded, motion failed.
- **Estate Donation:** Justin Bates moved to instruct Eugene Nicholas to direct the anticipated estate donation to the Building Renovation fund, Nektarios Papasavvas seconded, motion passed.
- **Hellenic College/Holy Cross:** Nektarios Papasavvas moved to donate \$5,000 to Hellenic College/Holy Cross and Christine Masella seconded, motion passed.

**Committee Reports:**

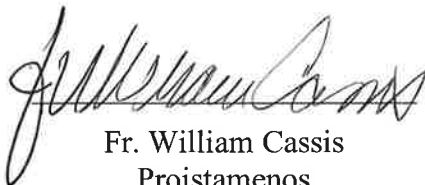
- **Stewardship:** Stewardship is currently up \$42,000, year-over-year. A 2017 kick-off meeting needs to be scheduled. Future financial seminars are being considered as well as scheduling our second name tag day.


**ADJOURNMENT**


**Call to adjourn:** Matthew Neuendorf moved to adjourn at 9:39 p.m.

**Closing prayer:** Fr. Bill offered the closing prayer.

Approved as written,

  
Fr. William Cassis  
Proistamenos

  
Nick L. Sarakatsannis  
President

  
Christine Masella  
Recording Secretary