



METROPOLIS  
OF DETROIT

# HOLY TRINITY-ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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## Parish Council Meeting Minutes October 15, 2015

### ATTENDANCE

**Clergy:** Fr. William Cassis, Fr. William Redmon.

**Members present:** Jim Gelis (Presiding), Matthew Neuendorf (Recording), Justin Bates, Chris Chryssovergis, David Greene, Stacey Loukoumidis, Christine Masella, Jessica Mavridoglou, and Nick Sarakatsannis.

**Members absent:** Karen Aamodt, Michael Mavridoglou, Nektarios Papasavvas, and Peter Rodish.

**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:** Jim Gelis called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

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

- Jim thanked the council for all its hard work this year.
- We had our Fall General Assembly. The budget passed with \$10,000 added for Outreach, with a corresponding increase in budgeted Stewardship. We have committed to focus on Stewardship in the coming year.
- We also need to focus on the building, both the upcoming projects and preparing for the future needs of the Parish.

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

- We received the Shepherd's Staff, as well as a thank-you letter from Chris Vlachos.
- The September minutes were distributed by email prior to the meeting, and revised according to feedback received. Justin moved to accept the minutes as revised, Stacey seconded, the motion passed.

#### **Clergy remarks:**

- Fr. Bill:
  - The Clergy-Laity conference was very successful. The volunteer recognition went well. The Metropolis appears to be in excellent financial shape. Fr. Bill had to leave early for a Saturday wedding. Next year will be the National Clergy-Laity and will be hosted in Nashville.
  - It is concerning that it is the third week of October and the Stewardship mailing has yet to go out.
- Fr. William:
  - Youth ministries will have a busy October and November. HOPE/JOY and GOYA will both be going to Neiderman's Farm this Saturday. The plan is to put together monthly events to draw in youth who don't regularly attend meetings. HOPE/JOY's Whisper newsletter has begun. GOYA is considering a newsletter as well, but it is still in consideration. Fr. William hopes that the members will contribute articles. OCF is assembling questions for their monthly meetings, so that Father can consider answers. They won't be meeting in October due to midterms. A retreat for SCS teachers is coming up, with Dr. Anthony Vrame as the presenter.

**Treasurer's report:**

- Peter Rodish is still in Buffalo, but he should be back for church on Sunday.
- The budget for next year was accepted with revision at the General Assembly.
- Our current balance is in the red by \$3,918.31, despite the Car Raffle netting around \$38,000, close to the budgeted amount.
- Nick moved to accept the report, Stacey seconded, and the motion passed.

**Parish Administrator's report:**

- For the Building Maintenance Tech, we received 2 resumes, including one from Craig Sansone. Eugene recommends hiring Craig full time. He would need to vet the details with Craig, including the scope of the duties involved, the salary, the benefits, etc., to determine if it would be enough for him to leave his current job.
- Regarding the building, the plumbing is still in progress, but it will be fixed before it snows. Electrical work on the boiler room is done and 2 new sump pumps have been installed, so 3 of our 4 pumps are new. The boiler system went out, so the starters were replaced, but one of the motors also had to be replaced as well. We should have heat on Sunday. The warped exit door frame near the conference room can no longer be adjusted, so it is scheduled to be replaced at an estimated cost of \$4,800.
- For the Building Manager's Office, Eugene plans to convert it into a maintenance shop, with a desk, a work bench, and any tools that the Building Maintenance Tech deems necessary. The carpet will stay, but the couch, TV, table, and shelf curtains will all be removed.
- The White Boards have all arrived. We only have 4 left to be install. The project should be completed this week. The total came in just under budget, at \$1,934.

**Old Business:**

- Building Maintenance Tech – Justin moved to have Eugene offer Craig the full-time Building Maintenance Technician position, Chris seconded; Justin amended the motion to have Eugene offer Craig the full-time Building Maintenance Technician position, at \$22 per hour plus benefits, and to promote him if he accepts. The motion passed as amended.

**New Business:**

- Stewardship – We have a new letter prepared, and are working on an updated folded mailer. We should be able to meet very shortly to prepare and execute a mailing campaign, and to plan a calling campaign. The committee aspires to be about more than just stewardship, adding Outreach to its purview, including sponsoring seminars on financial advice, promoting church ministries, and building parish awareness and involvement.

**Committee Reports:**

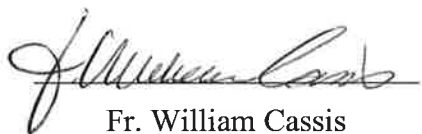
- Building Improvements Committee – We should have an estimate by the end of the week, and will have documents for the committee to review before soliciting bids. Audio-Visual pricing is being finalized with our vendor, with a current ballpark estimate around \$50-55,000 for two screens and a speaker system. Our official estimate at present is under budget, but the committee plans to review the numbers carefully.

**ADJOURNMENT**

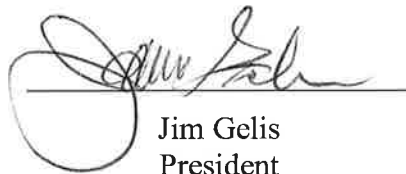
**Call to adjourn:** Matthew moved to adjourn at 9:01 pm.

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

Approved as written,



Fr. William Cassis  
Proistamenos



Jim Gelis  
President



Matthew Neuendorf  
Assistant Secretary