

**Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church**  
**Parish Council Meeting**  
February 9, 2017

A regular meeting of the Parish Council of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church was held on Thursday, January 19th, 2017 at the Church. President Tracy Pappas called the meeting to order at 6:30p.m. with Secretary Nick Dervenis present.

**Clergy Present:** Father Bill Bartz, Father Lucas Christensen

**Members Present:** Nick Dervenis, Dennis Dickos, Greg Dickos, Bob Dine, Anthony Eleftheri, Steve Kollias, Leon Pappas, Tracy Pappas, Nick Saran, Irene Sarris, Gail Zeheralis

**Members Absent:** Angelo Julovich, Julie Rowlas, Nick Sofianopoulos

**Opening Prayer**

Father Bill Bartz offered a prayer at the beginning of the meeting.

**Approval of the January 19<sup>th</sup> minutes**

Nick Saran made a motion: "I move to accept the minutes of the January 19<sup>th</sup> meeting." There was a second to the motion. There was opportunity for discussion. A vote was taken. The motion was approved.

**Treasury Report**

Nick Saran presented the Treasurer's report including an overview of the balance sheet as of February 9<sup>th</sup> 2017 as follows:

**ASSETS:**

PNC Operating Acct.	\$ 165,523.04
PNC Fundraising Acct.	\$ 1,533.87
PNC Designated Acct.	\$ 396,270.99
Schwab – Cash	\$ 125,985.86
PNC Building Fund	\$ 81,362.75
Total Assets	<u>\$ 773,676.51</u>

**LIABILITIES:**

Building Payables	\$ 36,938.90
Total Liabilities	\$ 36,938.90

**Details of Designated funds as of 2/09/17**

Corner Sign- \$6,100  
Iconography- \$143.51 (Paid dome lighting \$46,493.68)  
Altar Cloths- \$3,840  
Altar Boy Robes- \$2,000  
Choir- \$9,750  
GOYA- \$31,837  
Missions- \$17,818  
Dance Troupe-\$5,185  
Joy- \$835  
Hope- \$325  
REAL- \$279  
Sound System Donation \$2,815  
Phase 3 Iconography \$92,702  
Leisure Timers-\$290

Parking Expansion-\$20,000  
Savings- \$20,000  
Deferred Maintenance- \$182,663

Details of the Building Fund as of 2/09/17

Floor & Pews- \$34,097.07  
Roof Damage- \$18,291  
Litigation Settlement- \$19,436  
Building Donations- \$9,017.87 (Paid \$2,500 to Cardno for Wetlands)

Floor & Pews Contributions as of 2/09/17

Pledged: \$702,627.18  
Contributed: \$692,157.78  
Balance: \$10,469.40

**Changes:**

Operating Acct:  
No noticeable changes

Fundraising Acct:

Transferred "Deferred Maintenance" funds of \$18,400

Designated Acct:

Transferred "Deferred Maintenance" funds of \$182,663

Schwab Acct:

No changes

Building Fund:

Transferred Building CD to Designated funds for "Deferred Maintenance" \$125,263

Nick Dervenis made a motion: "I move to accept the Treasurer's report." There was a second to the motion. There was an opportunity for discussion. A vote was taken. The motion was approved.

**Finance Committee-Capin Crouse & 2017 Budget**

Nick Saran reported on Capin Crouse findings and action items which include the following:

Standard policy for money counting

Have all counters sign confidentiality forms for donor privacy  
Gift acceptance policy which Julie is working on  
Treasurer review with a minimum review of twice annually  
Employee I-9 forms need to be in all employee payroll files  
Employee HR and payroll files will be kept in separate locations  
Capitalization limits to increase from \$1,000 to \$3,000  
Annual review of the fixed asset list  
Annual formal financial review

Nick Saran said Capin Crouse praised Holy Trinity Church. Nick recommended to accept Capin Crouse's action items as outlined above.

Nick said budgeting for a full time employee to replace part-time employee will be met by moving money from the major repairs line on the 2017 budget. Nick said the bottom line will remain the same.

### **Stewardship Committee Report**

Dennis Dickos presented the Stewardship Report.

#### 2017 Stewardship as of 2/09/17

Total Parishioners Pledged to-date	301
Total amount pledged to date	\$621,341.46
Total amount contributed to date	\$106,631.60
Total Unpaid balance to date	\$514,709.86

#### 2016 Stewardship as of 2/09/16

Number of parishioners pledged for 2015	292
Total amount pledged to date	\$592,580.00
Total amount contributed to date	\$95,921.40
Total Unpaid balance to date	\$496,658.60

#### 2016 Stewardship as of 2/09/17

Total parishioners pledged	424
Total amount pledged	\$714,574.25
Total amount contributed	\$669,956.74
Total balance unpaid	\$44,617.51

Dennis stated stewardship folders are in the design process for 2018. The Stewardship Committee is exploring different payment options for purchasing items such as candles which are being utilized by different parishes.

### **Clergy Reports**

#### **Father Bill Bartz's Report**

Father Bill reviewed the Archdiocese Regulations Part 2 with the Parish Council.

Since our 19 January Parish Council meeting, one Vespereal Liturgy and one Baptism were celebrated. House blessings have begun and continue with the goal to complete them before Lent begins. There were three funerals. There were also two pre-marriage sessions and four meetings to prepare catechumens for Chrismation.

Father Bill and Father Lucas attended an interfaith luncheon at Carmel Christian Church on Thursday, 26 January, where there were approximately 50 representatives of different Christian denominations and different religions.

Father Lucas had his six-month review in which we reviewed his progress in the many aspects of being a Priest. Father Bill relayed to him that he is doing very well and that he is pleased with his efforts at Holy Trinity Church (HTC).

Michael Hendricks reduced the platform of the pulpit, making the pulpit more workable. HTC is grateful for his work and professional expertise.

Father Bill traveled to Akron, Ohio, for the celebration of his mother's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday and was away from 20 – 23 January. During his absence, there was an unfortunate situation during the Divine

Liturgy. From the many people who contacted me, Father Lucas handled this situation with love and respect. Father Bill handled the details after returning to Carmel.

Father Bill and Father Lucas attended the Metropolis of Detroit Clergy Pre-Lenten Retreat at Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Ann Arbor, Michigan on 6 – 8 February. Having attended these for the past five years, HTC established a new standard in hosting these retreats during the past two years. Father Bill is pleased to relay that Saint Nicholas Church in Ann Arbor, exceeded the standard. This retreat enabled Priests to gather and discuss issues that confront the Clergy during the ministry, both professional and personal. It was helpful to all of them.

### **Father Lucas Christensen's Report**

#### **YOUTH MINISTRY:**

##### *REAL –*

The Young Adults will hold a **Potluck** at Georgiana Pappas's home at 5pm this Sunday February 12. All Young Adults 22 years and older are invited.

##### *GOYA –*

The GOYA Advisors met on January 25<sup>th</sup> to finalize plans for the **summer trip to Chicago**, which Stephanie Anderson has spearheaded. Through the efforts of Leighann Csubak, GOYA has secured significant funding from the Kohl's grant program; GOYA also has grant funding remaining from support received for the Boston trip in August of 2015. The projected departure date is Tuesday June 20<sup>th</sup> with a return date of Thursday June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Plans include veneration of the Myrrh-Streaming Icon of Panagia at Assumption Church, visits to Greektown & the Hellenic Museum, a boat ride from the Navy Pier, & outings to Shedd Aquarium, Willis Tower, Millennium Park, & the Museum of Science & Industry.

GOYAnS helped at the **Merciful Help Center** on January 7<sup>th</sup> with 6 volunteers, & February 4<sup>th</sup> with 5 volunteers.

Senior & Junior GOYA held parallel **Orthodox Life** sessions on February 5<sup>th</sup>. Father Bill addressed 23 Senior GOYAnS on the topic of dating. 15 Junior GOYAnS met with me to talk about engaging popular media as Christians.

February 25<sup>th</sup> has been reserved for our GOYAnS, giving them the opportunity to participate in the Mystery of **Repentance & Confession**.

Our GOYAnS will be hosting the **Lenten Meal** on Wednesday March 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Jr. GOYA will be enjoying a **Fun Day at Zip City** on Saturday March 4<sup>th</sup>.

##### *HOPE & JOY –*

JOY had a wonderful time at **Laser Flash** on Saturday January 21<sup>st</sup> with 10 in attendance.

HOPE participated in **Duckpin Bowling** at Fountain Square on Saturday January 28<sup>th</sup>. 5 children from 3 families were in attendance.

HOPE/JOY will have their annual **Prosforo Baking** session on Saturday, Feb 11<sup>th</sup>. They will learn about the process of preparing, & meaning behind, prosforo, with a presentation on how it is prepared by the priest before the Divine Liturgy.

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:**

### *Church School –*

Our Church School teachers will meet for their **Lenten Retreat** this Monday February 13<sup>th</sup>. Father Bill & Father Lucas will present on the Eucharist – both its establishment by Christ as celebrated on Holy Thursday, as well as how we participate in this most holy of Mysteries.

Holy Trinity holds its annual St. John Chrysostom **Oratorical Festival** on Sunday February 26<sup>th</sup>.

### *Adult Education –*

We have begun presenting a series of three **Orthodox Faith** talks. On February 8<sup>th</sup> a presentation explored Spirituality with ~20 in attendance despite the inclement weather. On February 15<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> presentations will examine the Church's teaching on current moral issues.

## **PERSONAL REMARKS:**

This past week Father Lucas enjoyed the opportunity to attend the **Clergy Retreat** in Ann Arbor. While there, we discussed joys & challenges presented by priests ranging from one to thirty years' experience. Given the opportunities for conversation, Father Lucas appreciated the chance to meet & better know his brother priests.

## **Parish Council Committee Assignments and Reports**

### **HTC Wetlands – Tracy Pappas**

Tracy reported she is in the process of scheduling a meeting with the city of Carmel engineers. She is hoping for a meeting next week.

### **Bylaws Changes- Julie Rowlas**

Nick Saran moved to approve By-law changes as recommended by Julie Rowlas in Article VII section 3 and Article VIII section 2, as seen in the attachment document. There was a second to the motion. There was opportunity for discussion. A vote was taken. The motion was approved.

### **Flooring – Bob Dine**

No report.

### **Roof Insurance Claim- Julie Rowlas**

Bob Dine will meet with a structural engineer. Discussion ensued. Anthony Eleftheri suggested having either insurance company or the original contractor review the insurance company and identify the precise repairs that still need to be completed. With that information, two different roofing contractors submit bids on the necessary work. Anthony will work with Bob on contacting the insurance company to clarify what the actual concerns are on the roof.

### **Repairs-Iconostasion- Dennis Dickos**

Dennis said after speaking with Dean Maniakas it was determined that the cracks are not large enough now to have any repairs completed. However, three or four medallions on the pews have cracked. The repairs are covered under warranty. Dennis will contact New Holland Company.

### **Sound System- Father Bill & Nick Saran**

Nick Saran stated after receiving the first bid from ESCO Communications to upgrade our current sound system, he reached out to two additional companies, Premier and Ovation, who declined to bid. They recommended another person. A second bid has been received from ASG which has come in significantly less than our first bid from ESCO Communications. Discussion ensued. Steve Kollias moved to accept both bid bids from ASG as outlined in the provided packet as

follows: Bid 2A in the amount of \$49,899 and Bid 2B in the amount of \$11,235 with the funds for the project being donated. Details are seen in the attached documents. There was a second to the motion. There was opportunity for discussion. A vote was taken. The motion was approved.

***Repairs- Mold- Bob Dine***

Bob said the repairs will need to be completed on the exterior first. Bob will present his findings at next month's meeting.

***10 Year Plan- Bob Dine***

No Report.

***Gyro Fundraiser Report- Nick Dervenis, Irene Sarris & Steve Kollias***

Nick Dervenis reported a net profit of just under \$2,000. The yard signs were purchased and seemed to help with marketing and increased attendance. Father Lucas conducted a Church Tour at 6:30pm that was well attended. Irene Sarris thanked those who volunteered and encouraged all PC members to come out to support. The work by Sandy Cooper who has devoted much time with coordinating with the city of Carmel on designing, purchasing, and displaying the yard signs and also the banner were greatly appreciated. The Committee will consider different menu options in addition to gyros with the upcoming Lenten season.

***Montessori- Gail Zeheralis***

No Report.

***Collection trays & Reserve signs- Tracy Pappas***

No Report.

***Phase 3 Iconography- Father Bill***

Father Bill said there are a significant number of options still available for purchase. A Parish Council member mentioned that the profit from GreekFest 2017 might be directed to this project.

***Landscaping Bids- Tim Bryant***

Tim presented three landscaping bids for review. Tim recommends Bright View. Bright View was formerly Brickman Landscaping which was our landscape company from 2010-2015. They provided us with good consistent service with no issues. Bob Dine moved to accept the Bright View proposal as outlined in the handout. There was a second to the motion. There was opportunity for discussion. A vote was taken. The motion was approved.

***VISA for Dr. Kordis- Gail Zeheralis***

Gail spoke with an attorney who is awaiting information from Cindy Watson. Gail said the VISAs will extend from January 1, 2018 thru March 31, 2018 with a cost of \$5,000. She said visas are employer specific and are unable to be shared. The contract states a team of six individuals. Gail said there will be a visa contract that will need to be reviewed.

***Kinetrex- Leon Pappas***

Leon spoke with Kinetrex representatives who said HTC qualifies for the program as a school since we have Greek School and the Montessori School within the HTC building complex. Leon said the gas rates savings would be \$1,556 annually or 24%. There would be a contact to review. Leon recommended proceeding with the review of the contract by an attorney. Steve Kollias moved to hire an attorney to review the contract and provide recommendations. There was a second to the motion. There was opportunity for discussion. A vote was taken. The motion was approved.

**April 5 & 6 Parish Council Events**

Tracy Pappas said the Parish Council will host the Lenten dinner on April 5<sup>th</sup>. The PC meeting on April 6<sup>th</sup> will be moved to a start time of 7:00pm to accommodate Gyro Night.

**Sunday of Orthodoxy at HTC on March 5- Tracy Pappas**

Tracy said Holy Trinity will be hosting Sunday of Orthodoxy on March 5<sup>th</sup>. There will be a Great Vespers Service at 5:00pm followed by a dinner. All Parish Council members are needed to assist in hosting and overseeing the evening.

**Carnivale- Tracy Pappas**

Tracy said the Carnivale is scheduled for Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at Connor Prairie in Fishers and is looking for sponsors. Gail Zeheralis moved to approve a \$500 sponsorship for the Carnivale. There was a second to the motion. There was opportunity for discussion. A vote was taken. The motion was approved.

**Other Business**

Bob Dine suggested participation in the International Festival in Carmel. It is a one day event taking place on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Bob will investigate the cost and report his findings.

**Next Meeting** – March 9, 2017 at 6:30pm

**2017 Meetings** – 6 April, 11 May, 8 June, 13 July, 10 August, 14 September, 12 October, 9 November, 14 December.


**Adjournment**

Nick Saran made a motion. "I move to adjourn the meeting." There was a second to the motion. There was an opportunity for discussion. A vote was taken. The motion was approved.

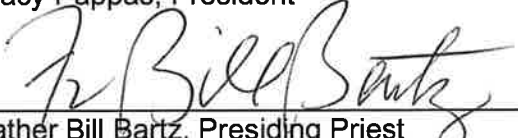
Father Lucas closed the meeting with a prayer. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

  
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Nick Dervenis, Secretary

3-9-17  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy Pappas, President

3-9-17  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Father Bill Bartz, Presiding Priest

9 MARCH 2017  
Date

