



ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

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ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL PARISH COUNCIL COMMUNIQUE

The Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral of Detroit Parish Council held its April, 2024 meeting on Tuesday, April 2, 2024. President William G. Lianos called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with a quorum present.

The meeting commenced with Father George leading all those in attendance in reciting the Lord's Prayer.

The minutes of the March 5, 2024 meeting were read and accepted as presented. The Treasurer's report for March 31, 2024 was then reviewed. There were no questions from those present regarding the year-to-date financials which through March 31, 2024 (the first quarter of the 2024 calendar year) which reflect revenue, excluding specific donations, in excess of expenses, of approximately \$15,300.

Correspondence:

- The formal letter from Metropolitan Nicholas was received acknowledging and accepting our Parish Council election results.

President's Report:

- The May, 2024 Parish Council meeting will be held Tuesday evening, May 7, 2024.
- President Lianos thanked all Parish Council members for their attendance and assistance during the March 24, 2024 vesper services and the March 25, 2024 Feast Day services. Special thanks to Parish Council Member George Theodorou for chairing the Feast Day luncheon. There was a general discussion of the favorable results of various activities associated with the two days of events, including the profitable bake sale, the delicious meal and the donations celebrating the Feast Day.
- The new telephone system discussed at the March, 2024 Council meeting continues to be investigated. The new system with the vendor, Vonage, will probably take place in the next month or two. Their sales representative has been on vacation. The anticipated cost of the system and the adjustment of our present telephone service should not result in an increase in our overall telephone cost.
- Holy Friday Procession Route – Discussion covered various alternatives for the procession. The concern is the safety of our parishioners in attendance with the associated vehicle and foot traffic that may be in Greektown if there is favorable weather on the first weekend in May. Anticipating Detroit Police approval, the decided upon route was exiting the Cathedral, west on Lafayette Blvd to St Antoine, right (north) on St Antoine to Monroe, right (east) on Monroe to our parking lot entrance on Monroe and then through the parking lot back into the Cathedral.

- Bonded security personnel to be hired to cover the parking lot entrances for Holy Thursday, Holy Friday and Holy Saturday evening services.
- The schedule for all Holy week services this year will be the same as it was for 2023. All Parish Council members are urged to attend as many of the services as they are able to assure adequate coverage in the Narthex and personnel for similar ushering services.

Committee Reports:

Security Committee-

- Committee chair, Harry Harris, reported that he met with Guardian Alarm to review an update to our current building alarm system. The terms of their service are extremely favorable. They will install new connection pads and control boxes at a cost of \$950.00 and then their monthly monitoring fee will be \$60.00 per month. Guardian is a well-known, long time alarm company. Motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to utilize their services. The installation of the new components of the alarm system to take place April 17,2024.

Building Committee-

- Committee chair, Jim Boloven, reported that the search to secure a qualified contractor to install the domes for the towers of the Cathedral continues. This has not been an easy process, especially upon learning that the weight of the domes will necessitate structural strengthen to the towers which will add to the cost of their ultimate installation. The committee will continue to research alternatives.
- The Building Committee continues to work with DTE to secure our energy conservation rebate following the installation of our HVAC upgrades . The process is tedious inasmuch as DTE requires specific items to process the claim.
- There was continued discussion regarding relocating the electrical control panel for the Cathedral's lighting from inside the altar. The cost of \$30,000 is currently prohibitive. The cost of rewiring and including dimmer switches for the new chandeliers is \$9,000. Jim indicated that he has secured a donor for this project. Motion was made, seconded and approved to proceed with the rewiring and dimmer installation for the chandeliers which will covered in full by a specific donation.

Iconography Committee-

- The committee with our iconographer for the "final mapping" of all the necessary remaining iconography of the Cathedral. Father George led the discussion of explaining the remaining iconography and its location in the Cathedral. A letter of this proposed mapping to be composed by Father George and sent to Metropolitan Nicholas for his review and anticipated approval. It was made clear to all that this is purely a mapping for future iconography to be completed only if and when funds permit us to do so.
- The Epirotic Society of Michigan are donating an Icon stand (matching the Reliquary Icon stand) for St. George the martyr of Ioannina and will be coming to support the Cathedral every January of each year to celebrate the feast of their patron Saint (January 17).

As the meeting drew to an end, the following items were noted:

- Donations are requested to offset the cost of Holy Friday's Epithaphio flowers.
- Assistance will be needed to help assemble palm crosses on Saturday, April 27,2024 for Palm Sunday services the next day.
- The Annunciation Cathedral will be preparing lunches for the poor of St Peter and Paul parish on Saturday morning, April 13,2024 to be delivered the next day, April 14,2024. Everyone is asked to physically assist that morning in preparing the lunches and/or make a specific donation to the Cathedral to help defray the cost of the project.
- The annual Greek Independence Parade through Greektown will be held on Sunday, April 14,2024.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m. with Father George leading in a closing prayer.

Please feel free to contact Father George or any Parish council member for any additional information, questions or concerns you may have.