



ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

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ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL PARISH COUNCIL COMMUNIQUE

The Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral of Detroit Parish Council held its July 2025 meeting on Tuesday, July 1, 2025. President Harry Harris called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with a quorum present.

The minutes of the June 3, 2025 Parish Council meeting were read and accepted as presented. There was no Treasurer's report given for June, 2025 inasmuch as the date of the evening's meeting, July 1, 2025, did not allow all June 2025 financial activity to be secured and finalized for a report just one day following month end. The June, 2025 Treasurer's report will be presented at the August, 2025 Parish Council meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- President Harry Harris reported that the Focus Hope retreat scheduled for this November at the Cathedral has been cancelled.
- A thank-you letter was sent to one of the Cathedral's parishioners acknowledging their recent donation of \$10,000.00 to help defray our HVAC expenses over the last year.
- Previous Parish Council Communiques have referred to a cleaning company that had been secured to clean the Cathedral building. After several "cleaning sessions", the company was deemed unreliable and their services were terminated. One positive note, the company had never invoiced the Cathedral and were never paid for any of their unsatisfactory cleaning services. Alternatives, possibly deep cleaning industrial cleaners and then follow-up volunteer parishioners cleaning to be reviewed as possible solutions.
- Everyone was reminded of the Monastery visit scheduled for Saturday, August 2, 2025. Anyone interested in attending may sign up in the narthex of the church on Sundays or by calling the Church office.
- The Cathedral's Day at the ballpark to see the Detroit Tigers is scheduled for Sunday, August 24, 2025. Sign-up is also available at the narthex on Sundays or by calling the Church office.
- The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 5, 2025.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Tony Panson led a discussion regarding this year's Fall Cash raffle, scheduled for Thursday, October 9, 2025. The raffle ticket price and grand prizes remain the same as that of last year. The dinner with beverages that is also a part of the raffle drawing evening was also discussed. We are working with our caterer to make the dinner ticket as affordable as possible to our guests. The raffle tickets are now available for purchase from any Parish Council or call the Church office to purchase a ticket

- Jim Boloven of our Building Committee reported that minimal issues have resulted since the completion of much of the HVAC renovation. He did remind us that portions of the entire system are original equipment (40 years+) and that unfortunately, repair issues will continue to arise on occasion.
- I-375 Corridor – Jim Boloven attends meetings scheduled by MDOT on behalf of the Cathedral. There have been no recent meetings. The work is schedule to begin late this calendar year or early 2026. The Lafayette Blvd. exit from I-375 is not scheduled to be closed. We are fortunate to have the Greektown Casino on the same “side” as the Cathedral as this project goes forward. We are both advocating for continued open access to Lafayette Blvd from the freeway to our Cathedral as is the Greektown Casino is to their facility and parking structure.
- Book Club - The new book for the Book Club is available for those interested. Copies of the book are available in the narthex of the Church. Pano Papalekas, chairman of the group, will be emailing all prior participants regarding the new book and scheduling their next meeting. Please contact Pano if you have any questions regarding participating in the Book Club.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Father George reported the Pan-Ikarians are continuing their efforts to invite Metropolitan Efsevious of Samos and Ikaria to visit the Cathedral for the presentation of a relic of St. Theoktisti on the date of the Greek Independence Day parade next spring (parade date yet to be determined).

NEW BUSINESS:

- With the initiative of Rev. Fr. Georgios Manias, it was discussed and agreed that during the 2025 Ecclesiastical year, the owners of Bakalikon/Golden Fleece restaurants will advertise their products with brochures in a booth at the 707 banquet hall during the coffee hour, every time a Greek association of Michigan will visit and support the Cathedral's services to celebrate their patron Saints. With our assistance and help, the owners of the Bakalikon/Golden Fleece, in return will donate \$250 each time to the Annunciation Philoptochos that will help our Philoptochos to create an additional financial aid of \$2,500.00 that will provide more philanthropic help and assistance locally and through the Archdiocese.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m. with Father George leading 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.