



## ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

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### **ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL PARISH COUNCIL COMMUNIQUE**

The Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral of Detroit Parish Council held its October, 2024 meeting on Tuesday, October 1, 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 present in reciting the Lord's Prayer.

The meeting commenced with a presentation from Mike Aubree and Nick Aubree of Park Right, Inc. (the lessee of our parking lot). They presented their plans to automate the parking lot, including automated arms at all three entrances to the Church parking lot. The overall goal of Park Right is to bring our parking lot in line with many of their other parking lots along with others in the vicinity that allow prepaid, reserved parking with cashless payment. They explained that the gates will always be opened whenever Church services are being held and that there will always be free parking available to anyone visiting the Church by appointment when no services are being performed. Additionally, the parking lot will continue to be manned daily and the service drive gate will be closed after attendant leaves for safety reasons.

They also explained that the automated arms will enhance the security of the parking lot in addition to the gates and fence that currently exist. They both satisfactorily answered many questions posed from the Council members present regarding their proposed automation plans.

After their presentation, the Council discussed Park Right's plans. Their presentation was made in hopes of our approval. All Council members present recognize that the financial success of Park Right directly translates to the financial success of the Cathedral. Our annual rental income from our lease with Park Right represents 47% of our annually budgeted revenue. Following the detailed discussion, the Council agreed to Park Rite's automationpt plans and council member, Bill Lianos, will be in contact with Park Right regarding our favorable decision.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- There was none to be presented.

#### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

- President Will Lianos thanked Father George and all of the Sunday School teachers for their work in commencing Sunday School over the past two Sundays with over 25 children in attendance. It is very encouraging to see that many children in attendance. Additional thanks to Soula Serra, Sunday School director, and to the parents for bringing their children to Church and Sunday School.

- Metropolitan Nicholas' 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Enthronement Banquet will be held Saturday, October 12, 2024. Father George and 20 parishioners from the Cathedral will be attending the event.
- "Greening the Parish" is an initiative being sponsored by the Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate that all parishes are being urged to participate in. The goals of the initiative are to create greater awareness of the leadership of His All-Holiness Patriarch Bartholemew on issues of the environment and creation. More on the initiative and the Cathedral's involvement will be forthcoming.
- The Pancretan Association of America Fraternity of Detroit "PSELORETES", the Cretan Ladies Society "KPHTH" and the "LEVENDOYENNA" Youth of Detroit will be attending the Cathedral on Sunday, November 3, 2024 to commemorate the Heros of the Holocaust (11/08/1866) and 200 years of the Martyrdom of the 4 Cretan Saints of Rethymno (10/28/1824).
- The Fall General Assembly meeting has been rescheduled to Sunday, November 10, 2024 following the Divine Liturgy. The Philoptochos is planning a salad bar luncheon for that date as well. All parishioners are urged to attend the meeting and enjoy lunch.
- The new Epirotic Icon Stand has been delivered from Greece and is currently awaiting shipment to us from the East Coast. We will be notified prior to its delivery to the Cathedral.
- Iconographer Laurence Manos has completed the icon with the 55 Saints of Epirus for this new Icon Stand and it will be arriving soon.
- The Book Club will be commencing this fall. Pano Papalekas and Father George are in the process of selecting the book to be read.
- Focus Detroit is sponsoring the "Motor City Orthodox Christian Conference" in Detroit on November 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024. The event is on our Parish calendar, but the organization has yet to contact us as to their plans and their anticipated use of the Cathedral and 707 East for the event. President Lianos to follow-up with the event's Chairperson.

The minutes of the September 3, 2024 Parish Council meeting were read and accepted as presented. The Treasurer's report, year to date August 31, 2024, was presented and reviewed. Treasurer, Tony Panson, indicated that all Parish invoices to date, September 30, 2024, have been paid. The August 31, 2024 financials reflect receipts, after specific use donations, in excess of expenses, of \$13,971. Our current financial situation continues to be stable and on budget.

Council member George Theodorou suggested various Cathedral expenditures be reviewed on regular basis to see if there are any other more economical choices for such items as cell phone fees, paper supplies, vehicle lease expenditure, etc. He will take it upon himself to review some of these recurring Cathedral expenditures to determine if there may be more economical alternatives.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- Raffle Committee – The October 17, 2024 is fast approaching. Chairperson Tony Panson polled all Council members present who have tickets to sell as to their sales status along with their dinner ticket sales status. A guest count must be given to 707 East's caterer one week prior to the event. Once again, everyone was reminded that this is the Cathedral's only annual fund raiser and everyone is urged to participate to ensure its success.
- Building Committee – Jim Boloven reported that there is a leak somewhere in the air conditioning lines. Once the weather changes and air conditioning will no longer be in use, our HVAC contractor will perform tests to locate the leak (the hope being that it is not underground).

The electrical work for the dimmer switches for the new chandeliers is scheduled to be performed within the next two weeks. The annual roof inspection by Schena Roofing will also be performed within this same two-week period.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- President Lianos reminded all Council members to check and make sure that all the entry doors to the Narthex are securely locked after services every Sunday.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Father George will be assisting in the establishment of the "Pontian Society" of Detroit.
- Archbishop Elpidophoros of America will be attending the 2025 Greek Independence Day Parade In April, 2025.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05p.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.