



ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

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ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL PARISH COUNCIL COMMUNIQUE

The Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral of Detroit Parish Council held its March 2025 meeting on Tuesday, March 4, 2025. President Harry Harris called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. with a quorum present.

The minutes of the February 4, 2025 Parish Council meeting were read and accepted as presented. The Treasurer's report for the two months ended February 28, 2025 was then reviewed. The two months to date 2025 financial activity reflect a slight excess of expenses over revenues, primarily attributable to certain March 2025 expenses paid in February. After taking these prepayments into account, Treasurer Tony Panson explained that the Cathedral's financials reflect break-even activity year to date 2025 and continue to be within budget. After several minutes of discussion, the February, 2025 Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- After taking their oath of office as Parish Council members for 2025 on Sunday, February 23, 2025, all the Parish Council members met to elect Officers for the year. The newly elected officers are:

President:	Harry Harris
Vice-President:	Will Lianos
Secretary:	Dean Politis
Treasurer:	Tony Panson
Assistant Treasurer:	Bill Lianos

- President Harry Harris explained that the Executive Committee of the Parish Council (the officers) met to discuss salary increases for the Proistamenos Priest and Church staff of the Annunciation Cathedral of Detroit. The Executive Committee met with several of our staff to discuss a variety of issues including our expectations of their duties, their work performance and the Cathedral's ability to pay increased salaries at this time. The end result and the recommendation to the Parish Council is that the Proistamenos Priest and Church staff will receive a salary increase approximating the increase in living costs over the past several years since their last salary increase, and an increase was recommended on an annual basis. The Executive Committee's recommendation was made as a motion that was unanimously passed by the members present. The salary increases will be retroactive to January 1, 2025.
- President Harry Harris thanked all the members of the Annunciation Philoptochos for the preparation of the Macoronatha luncheon. He also suggested that going forward that all Council members in Church on any given Sunday who are not assigned Narthex duty to check to see if the Philoptochos needs any help with Coffee Hour preparation.

- President Harry Harris also thanked everyone who participated in the basement clean-up on February 15, 2025. The basement storage area looks completely different. Everyone is reminded to put everything away after use to maintain the clean and orderly status of the both the banquet hall and basement storage area.
- Parishioners Becky & Bill Lianos, along with Jim Kontos were thanked for their assistance in rearranging chairs for a recent 707 East event. Thanks also to John Cook who replaced the locks on several Philoptochos supply cabinets.
- The new icon stands are in and reflect very detailed beautiful work.
- The new cleaning crew walked both the Church and basement area with several Council members on Friday, February 28th to outline their work which is to commence the week of March 4, 2025. Bill Lianos to be their contact person should they have any questions.
- Park Rite has installed gates at all the entry point to our parking lot. They will be placed in the up-right position for all Sunday services and other events on the Cathedral's calendar. No parishioners will ever be charged for parking in our lot when visiting for Church business. It is suggested that if the gates are down and you are visiting the Church during normal business hours, to use the Monroe Steet entrance where a Park Rite employee should be there to allow you access. You will be reimbursed if you ever have to pay for parking when attending the Church for whatever reason, just inform the Cathedral office if that happens.
- April 6, 2025 is the Greek Independence Day as well as the day we are receiving the Holy Relic from His Grace Metropolitan Maximos of Ioannina. His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros and His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas will be attending services that day. All Council members are urged to be present inasmuch as several hundred people may be in attendance.
- The next Parish Council meeting will be Tuesday, April 1, 2025.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Jim Boloven reported that he had received quotes for both roof repairs that are necessary to prevent interior damage as well as a quote to properly prepare the two towers for the desired dome installation. The cost of the necessary roof repairs is approximately \$34,000.00. The Cathedral has the funds for this repair in savings and the Parish Council members present unanimously approved this repair.
- The tower work necessary to prepare them for the domes is at a minimum \$175,000.00 plus engineering fees and permits. This expenditure, although desirable by many and very aesthetic and consistent with the original plan of the Cathedral, is beyond our current budget restraints. Plan to fund this project through specific fundraising campaigns will be considered.
- Jim Boloven informed us that the next I-375 Corridor Expansion meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2025. The future plans for this corridor continue to not be finalized. He will keep the Council posted as MDOT's plans progress.

- Harry Harris and Jim Boloven plan to meet with Ernie's Catering to try to increase the activity of 707 East which has hosted very few events in the last several years.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Tickets for the March 25th luncheon are now available for purchase. The cost remains that same as that of last year, \$45.00. Donations to defray the cost of the event would be gratefully accepted.
- The Christmas tree has been returned to storage in the upper stairwell.
- The Rhodian Society of Detroit, Michigan will be having their annual Artoklasia, Memorial and coffee hour on Sunday, March 23, 2025.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The weekly bulletin to include information to all parishioners regarding the newly elected Parish Council officers and the necessary roof repairs.
- Flyer has been prepared informing all regarding the Holy Relic to be received from His Grace Metropolitan Maximos of Ioannina on April 6, 2025 and the attendance by His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros and His Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas.
- The "Panagia Soumela" Pontian Society of Detroit, Michigan will be having their annual Artoklasia, Memorial and coffee hour on Sunday, May 23, 2025.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:26 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.

