

# St. Nicholas Parish Assembly

November 19, 2017

## Opening Prayer at 12:10PM

### 1. Fr. Bill's Message

St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians where he talked about unity with God, through Christ.

### 2. President's Message

- Our work here is about God and Christ and one key message: from those to whom the Lord has given a lot, a lot is expected.
- This has been a great year on a lot of levels
  - Parish Council's Spiritual retreat at St. Basil's and another one is scheduled in January
  - Much work was accomplished around the physical church structure, e.g. cement work on the sidewalks, new air conditioning units, new granite steps ... too many to list
- Security is something that we need to address, i.e. update the security of our Church
- Youth Initiatives
  - Social Media team has done good work to expand our social media presence
  - Trophy case installed for our GOYA
- Employee reviews and job assessments. Recently hired an assistant (George) to help maintain the facility, clean up the classrooms, etc.
- Outreach. We allocated 10% of all fund raising efforts to outreach – allocation decisions will be made at the December Parish Council meeting.

### 3. Election of Chairman for Parish Assembly

Motion to nominate Evans Agrapidis as Chairperson: No. 47, Second: No. 56 – approved unanimously

### 4. Approval of the June 11, 2017 Parish Assembly Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes: No. 52, Second: No. 57 – approved unanimously

### 5. Treasurer's Presentation and Approval of the 2018 Operating Budget

- **Festival.** Huge success, but still do not have final numbers, because some outstanding invoices not received from our vendors that will need to be paid.
  - All in revenues 253K vs. 224.6K last year, explained no flea market this year
  - We do not have final profits because all expenses/invoices are not all in yet from our vendors, but preliminary estimates range between \$125.7K and \$131.5K.
  - For comparison, profit from the 2016 festival was \$122.3K
- **Treasurers Report.** Reviewed YTD October budget vs. actual results (attached to the minutes). On a core basis, our revenues and expenses are aligned and close to budget.
  - Further details were provided on specific expenses/spends that occurred outside the budget planning process, e.g. sidewalk repairs and Church's exterior foundation. But there was room in the budget to support these onetime capital improvements.
  - Reviewed impact and expectation from the Parish's top three fund raisers: flea market, car raffle and the golf outing.
  - Mortgage Balance
    - \$1.13M as of 12/31/16
    - \$1.02M as of 10/31/17
    - Year to date our mortgage has been paid down by \$106,651

- Cash Balance. Explained that cash flow and our available cash balance varies during the year; and provided a year over year perspective on the Church's cash balance from YE2015 through 2017, and a projection for 2018.
- **2018 Budget.** Similar to 2017 operating budget, except for one time charge associated with the new air conditioning unit (~\$24K) and potentially an incremental expense if we elect to take some action for security.
- Questions on Treasurer's Report and Budget Discussion.
  - **Clarify that the 2018 budget is effectively unchanged (revenue and expenses) between 2017 and 2018 – correct?** (No. 35) Yes.
  - **The Archdiocese amount is flat year over year, how much do we pay the Metropolis?** (No. 26) We do not pay the Metropolis, the monies get paid direct to the Archdiocese
  - **Why did the personnel line budget change? (No. 48)**  
We had positions that were not filled (e.g. youth director) therefore we had some variability in that line item.
  - **What's in the mortgage reduction numbers?** (No. 62)
    - Mortgage today is \$1.023M. We have a campaign to raise \$1.2M.
    - Parishioners have given us \$76K and \$50K was paid towards the mortgage in May (the remaining \$26K will be applied in 2018).
    - However as part of the normal course of business, the parish council was applied another \$25K out of its cash balance.
    - Comment on the Stewardship number – it is forecast to decline year over year and that should be seen as a concern.
  - **Why do we need an adjusted budget?** (No. 48)  
Intent was to provide the data in a meaningful, easy to understand approach
  - **Acoustics and the audio system need to be improved** (No. 2)  
The Council should consider assessing the sound system in the Church and Fellowship Hall
  - **How do we recognize parishioners who give their time?** (No. 57)  
Examples: Mr. Anonymous, Gold Star Electrical
- Motion to approve the 2018 budget submission: No. 35, Second: No. 48 – approved unanimously

## 6. Old Business

- **Mortgage Reduction Campaign.**
  - Unveiling of a Tree of Giving which has leaves
  - This will allow people to donate towards the campaign at several donation levels  
The Giving Tree will be placed on the wall in the narthex where the TV is today
- **Property on (472) Grandview Avenue, adjacent to our Church property**
  - LLC purchased this property and owns it
  - At some point in the future St. Nicholas can elect to buy the property from the LLC for the same price, i.e. the LLC is not seeking to make a profit

## 7. New Business

- **Golf Outing.** Made \$40,000
- **Car Raffle.** Need to sell 340 to make a profits, right now ~200 tickets sold
- **Kitchen Renovation.** \$180K+ donation from the Ahepa to upgrade the kitchen and create storage; construction could begin at the end of December
- **Question on refinishing the bronze altar gate? (No. 62)**  
As of right now it is a lower priority, but we will look to put it back on the work list  
Last estimate was ~\$20K to refinish it properly

## 8. Nominations for Parish Council

- **Retiring Parish Council Members.** Nick Karras, Manny Toskos, Jim Coromilas
- **Returning Parish Council Members.** Nick Pirsos, Jon Zymaris
- **Nominations for Parish Council**
  - Nick Pirsos, Nomination by No. 57, Second No. 48
  - Jon Zymaris, Nomination by No. 31, Second No. 52
  - Kathy Van Dine, Nomination by No. 17, Second No. 9
  - Nick Resavy, Nomination by No. 40, Second No. 48
  - Nick Karadimis, Nomination by No. 50, Second No. 66
  - Zoe Kominos, Nomination by No. 57, Second No. 59

## 9. Election of Board of Elections – three to five

- Charlie Charlis (Nomination by No. 40)
- Ted Vittas (Nomination by No. 57)
- Peter Douma (Nomination by No. 17)
- Alice Eliades (Nomination by No. 70)
- Zach Pappas (Nomination by No. 70)

## 10. Election of Board of Audit Members

Motion to keep current audit committee intact (No. 50) – approved unanimously

- Dean Symeonides
- Bill Milcos
- Tasos Ioannou

## Closing Prayer at 1:35PM