

**TRAVERSE CITY ORTHODOX MISSION CHURCH
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
3010 Hastings Street
Sunday, September 9, 2007
MINUTES**

Call to Order:

Acting President, Karen Kain called the General Assembly to order at 11:50 a.m.

Opening Prayer:

Father Iakovos led the assembled in the opening prayer.

Nomination of Chairperson:

A motion by Karen Kain, seconded by Bob Underwood to elect Stephanie Long as Chair of the General Assembly. Motion passed unanimously.

Quorum:

A quorum would be required to be in attendance to adopt any items. With our current membership of 86 members, a quorum of 29 would be required to be present to vote. In attendance today are 38 members in good standing.

Review of the Bylaws:

Martha Ealy presented an overview of the parish proposed bylaws that were mailed to all members three weeks ago. The bylaws that were presented to you are in accordance with the directives as presented in the Archdiocesan Regulations, Uniform Metropolis Regulations, and the Uniform Parish Regulations. These bylaws can be amended at anytime that our parish grows in the future. Three corrections have been suggested.

Page 1, Article I Officers should read "Parish."

Page 3, Article IV, 4.5.5 should read "Items to be voted on at the General Assembly shall be decided by a simple majority vote of the members present in good standing."

4.5.5 should be 4,5.6

4.5.6 should be 4.5.7

Page 7, Article VIII 8.3 Limited Disclosure should read "Only the Treasurer and Stewardship Chairman and others appointed by this Council as deemed necessary (example: accountants) shall have access to all information otherwise deemed confidential under this Article."

A motion by Bob Underwood, seconded by Karen Kain to accept the bylaws as amended and present them to Metropolitan Nicholas, Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit. Motion passed unanimously.

Pastor's Report:

Father Iakovos reported that the Metropolis is supplementing our parish for two years. During this time, the goal is to become self-supporting. He will be doing several things in our community including teaching a class on orthodoxy at the local college; teaching a class in the theology program at the Grand Traverse Area Catholic Schools, and meeting with the directory of the Father Fred Foundation. People have to hear what we have to say. The congregation will be responsible for living our faith and answering any questions that may arise about Orthodoxy in the community. In this way we will spread the word of who we are and what we believe in. This will help to grow the parish. We will become a parish that can support ourselves.

Budget Report:

Doug Partlo led the assembled through the Budget Report as presented. He explained the variance is a result of getting a priest in the middle of the year. We need to be mindful of where we are going to be in 2008.

Choir Report:

The role of the choir is to act as a team leader to help the congregation in singing the liturgy or other worship services. We will be introducing new music that will be easier for the congregation to sing.

Buildings & Grounds:

Doug Partlo gave a report on the status of the property that we were considering on M72. We receded our offer because it would not facilitate our needs in the future. Our earnest money was returned and we are continuing our search for property.

Our current facility will need to be cleaned on a regular basis. This could be accomplished either by hiring it out or by an individual in our congregation. The Parish Council will be discussing this issue.

Board of Elections:

Nominated were Elizabeth Husby, Rebekah Olechnowicz, and Holly Olszewski to be the Election Committee. This committee will over see the election of nominees to the Parish Council Approved.

Board of Auditors:

Nominated were Ray Ealy, Donna Psaros, and Tina Partlo to serve on the Board of Auditor. Approved.

Nominations for the Parish Council:

Father Iakovos covered the term limits as stated in the bylaws. For 2008, 3 positions will be for 3 years, 3 positions for 2 years. The four officers in office will not stand for election this year but will step down in 2009. They are the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasure. Thereafter three positions will be elected each year. All candidates were nominated and seconded.

Nominated were:

Bob Underwood (nominated by Doug Partlo)
Theresa Paterson (nominated by Holly Olszewski)
Dennis Stavros (nominated by Chuck Bethea)
John Batsakis (nominated by Judy Weston)
Stephanie Long (nominated by Karen Kain)
Helen Dalbo (nominated by Ted Demes)
Helen Knapp (nominated by Holly Olszewski)
Dwight Demitz (nominated by Randy Kain)
Doug Partlo (nominated by Martha Ealy)

Nominations were closed and the voting will take place 3 weeks from today, September 30. Ballots will be mailed by September 17 to allow them to be returned to us by September 26 for those who cannot be in attendance. On Sunday, September 30 we hold our election after liturgy at which time the election will be closed.

Philoptochos:

Martha Ealy will start to organize our local ladies Philoptochos society. She distributed a mission statement and we will meet this Tuesday, Sept. 11 to discuss this. The purpose will be mainly to help Father with meeting the needs of shut-ins, fellowship hour, mailings, etc.

Closing Prayer:

Father Iakovos let the assembled in singing the Lord's prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

Tina Partlo
Judy Weston