

**TRAVERSE CITY ORTHODOX MISSION CHURCH
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
3010 Hastings Street, Traverse City, MI 49686
Sunday, September 20, 2009**

MINUTES

Notice of General Assembly:

The notice of the September 20, 2009 General Assembly was either emailed/hard copy mailed via the US Postal Service by Judith Weston in a packet on August 28, 2009 to all stewards and friends of the T.C.O.M. Church. Included in the packet were the notice of the meeting date; an agenda; a profit and loss statement for January through July 2009; a budget analysis for 2009-2010; minutes of the September 7, 2008 General Assembly; and the minutes of the May 3, 2009 Spring Assembly.

Call to Order:

Paish Council President, Karen Kain called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Opening Prayer:

Father Iakovos led the assembled in the opening prayer.

Nomination of Chairperson:

A motion by Judy Weston, seconded by Doug Partlo to elect Stephanie Long as Chair of the General Assembly. Motion passed unanimously.

Quorum:

A quorum is required to be in attendance to vote on any items. With our current membership of 95 stewards, a quorum of 32 stewards would be required. In attendance today are 36 stewards in good standing.

Power Point Presentation:

Karen Kain presented a power point presentation of all that has been accomplished in the last two years by our parishioners. We have had approximately \$25,000.00 donated to purchase various religious items and equipment.

Committee Reports:

Budget Report:

Doug Partlo went through all of the mailed financial reports and answered questions from those present. The 2010 budget reflects a 4% increase however, some items reflect a higher percent increase. Currently our stewardship does not cover our operating expenses and it has been necessary to use the proceeds of our fund raiser, the Taste of Greece to operate. We are not in debt and have not used any of our savings. A motion by Andy Foster, seconded by Dennis Stravos to accept the budget reports as presented. Motion passed with a vote of 34 yeas and 2 nays.

General Assembly, September 20, 2009 (Continued):

Taste of Greece:

Bob Underwood stated that this year's Taste of Greece raised \$10,295.00 for the church. He reported that this year the event was coordinated beautifully. Next year the event will be co-chaired by Andy Foster and Steve Bemis. Mr. Underwood thanked all who have made the Taste of Greece successful through the years.

Pastor's Report.

Father Iakovos reported that we had a very busy and successful year. We are being recognized in the community and we need to continue this by being active in other organization so the community will continue to know that there is an Eastern Orthodox church in the area. We are here to stay. We are planning different events during the year that will bring people in the community to us. These events will be something as simple as a group discussion about a popular book. A family night is scheduled for the evening of September 21 that anyone can attend. It will be divided into three separate groups. All are invited.

Bylaw Review:

Doug Partlo presented proposed changes to our current Bylaws.

Article 1.4 changed to read "The Parish is located at P.O. Box 6350, Traverse City, Michigan 49696." A motion by Martha Ealy, seconded by Theresa Patterson to adopt the wording as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Article 2.4 changed to read "All members, with the exception of salaried employees, are eligible for election to one of the elected bodies of the Parish, provided they have been a member for at least one year from the date they will take office." A motion by Judith Weston, seconded by Bob Underwood to adopt the wording as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Article 3.3 changed to read "Notices will be sent either electronically (if an email address is on file) or mailed via the United States Postal Service." A motion by Bob Underwood, seconded by Dennis Stavros to adopt the wording as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Article 4.3 to read "The quorum of the membership is required for the General Assembly. A quorum shall consist fo 25% of the membership eligible to vote." Discussion followed regarding the definition of a steward, a parishioner, and a member. Until this definition of the terminology has been established, this Article cannot be changed. The proposal to change Article 4.3 was tabled until these definitions are established.

Board of Elections:

Nominated were Sharon Foster, Theresa Underwood and Kiki Sebestyen. A motion by Karen Kain, seconded By Bob Underwood to accept the nominations. Motion passed unanimously.

Board of Auditors:

Nominated were Tina Partlo, Steve Bemis and Dan Wilkie. A motion by Martha Ealy, seconded by Dennis Stavros to accept the nominations. Motion passed unanimously.

General Assembly, September 20, 2009 (Continued):

Nominations for Parish Council:

The nominations were:

Nikki Sobkowski nominated by Martha Ealy
Doug Partlo nominated by Bob Underwood
Andy Fostor nominated by Steve Bemis
Theresa Patterson nominated by Karen Kain

A motion by Eric Patterson, seconded by Dennis Stavros to close the nominations. Motion passed unanimously.

Open Comments:

Some parishioners had very positive comments

Closing Prayer:

Father Iakovos led the assembled in the closing prayer and the meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Judith Weston
Tina Partlo