

**Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
General Assembly, Sunday, January 27, 2013**

Those in attendance: Attendance sign-up sheet posted for parishioners in good standing to qualify for voting.

Meeting called to order at 12:15pm by Meeting Chairman Mark Langford. Fr. Paul led us in an opening prayer.

Quick update provided by Mark Langford on committee trip to Bishop, with progress being made toward reducing our archdiocese financial commitment.

Approval of the Minutes: (posted in December HT Newsletter) from last General Assembly of Sunday, November 18th, 2012. Minutes reported by Helen Perros and Meg Economy. Motion to approve was made by Dr. Connie Kledaras, seconded by Floye Dombalis. Majority approved.

A brief **Treasurer's Report** was presented by David Ford, with thanks to Don McEnteer for an excellent transition process for the new year. The Treasurer is very optimistic, since we started 2012 with \$85,000, and ended with \$45,000.

- a) December revenues exceeded all expectations. Round figures, \$86,000 was recorded in December. The new budget shows that we need \$45,000 monthly to meet our obligations. Will post the figures in monthly bulletin. A question was posed by Katerina Knesevic about the makeup of December revenues, with some contributions received for 2013 (\$10,000 appx.) but that is typically balanced out by some of the January collections will be for completing 2012. The contrast was provided that in Dec 2011 we collected \$55,000. Rhonda Milkovich posed a question regarding our liability for restricted ministry funds. David stated that we topped \$2 million in donations for the first time. George Kapetanakis clarified this financial position, agreed that we can be optimistic today, but also focus on continuing a strong donation position. David reiterated this financial report was intended to be minimal, since today's General Assembly was specifically called to update the parish on the Capital Campaign and not on the budget. John Demos stated that we have received 221 pledges to date, our best commitment since 2006, with committed amounts at \$344,000. We topped \$400,000 pledges for 2012. For 2013, we are currently at 180 pledges received, for a pledged amount of \$265,340. We are well on track for a record pledge year. Mary Helen Winstead moved that we approve the Treasurers Report, which was seconded by Don McEnteer. All approved.

Parish Business:

- a) Capital Campaign Committee update and overview was presented by George Pappas on behalf of the CC executive committee. George commented that he is not on PC now, but anticipates working closely with an enthusiastic new PC membership. The purpose of today's meeting is not about the budget, but

about the strategic plan for the growth of our church. It's fairly simple, compared to other communities we are in a good position with our master plan concept. To achieve our goals, Phase One is focused on our Sanctuary only, to have space to worship together and to adequately house our ministries. Many members are involved in the Capital Campaign at various levels. George presented our sources of funds, which include monetary donations and pledge forms, the Festival income allocated to the Capital Campaign (\$285,000), car raffle donations, with additional earned income (\$3600) from interest, and the Philoptochos donations. \$2 million in cash has been raised so far. Thus far we've spent some funds (\$200,000) on the design process, master plan advice, site surveys, and informational brochures. We have \$3 million pledged, with only 30% of our stewards making this CC commitment. We believe we can reach our projected \$6 million commitment within a reasonable time frame. We have no outstanding debt either. Harry Kledaras asked if stewards are up-to-date on paying their CC commitments, and Mark affirmed that we're fairly close on that figure. Presbyter Mary restated that our commitment is staying strong. The CC executive committee has reviewed the overall status and progress toward our master plan goals, and they encourage our community to remain committed. We have excellent talent in this Parish. Some other communities have gone into debt to build new facilities, but the dynamics look good to continue as we are currently. George reviewed details of Phase One, with Chris Pappas offering his assessment of a 10-15% variance in estimated costs. Elaine Noulis mentioned that the projected numbers do not include costs for a new Iconostasion and pews, and Chris added that these additional needs will be addressed by memorial gifts. The executive committee believes these items would be forthcoming once the building becomes a reality. Katina Rogers spoke to the need for completing our place of worship prior to adding details such as the bookstore, etc. Chris outlined how the CC committee would detail and manage how each area would be completed in the process of becoming fully functional. Once we hire the local architect we would refine details as we move forward. Pres Mary spoke to the 70% who have not already committed, with the likelihood of some of those people stepping forward to commit to specific items such as the Iconostasion, library, etc. Marika LaSorsa commented that this is their 4th community to be focused on the building fund. It's been usual to build the Sunday School first, in most cases. She asked about the use of the facility during construction, which includes classrooms for the Sunday School. Dennis Fallis asked how strongly we felt that we would have significant donors within our community, so that we don't have to take out a \$3 million mortgage. His opinion was that mortgage rates are excellent right now, with some discussion on when the right time would be should we need to take out a mortgage. Kathy Frankos asked that we recommit to parishioners who can provide goods and services for the facility. George Kapetanakis commented that various people in the community are not comfortable with adding a mortgage, that we need to be aware of what it will take to pay our bills each month and to move ahead conservatively. Andia

Xouris commented that their prior community build a community center first to raise funds to support the building process with good results. George suggested we should schedule an open house with members of the building committee to revisit options for the timeline, and Harry Costa talked about the trip to visit the Los Vegas community's hall. Cost to maintain the facility there was a break-even expense versus profits. George reiterated that the decisions we have already made in past meetings was to move forward with building our new church. Roberta Stavredes commented that we need to tell parishioners we need \$1 million this year, not slow and steady as we have been so conservative. Some discussion on funds already committed to the master plan, building the church or fellowship hall first, and all the options considered in establishing the master plan we have in place. George stated that the CC executive committee don't recommend taking out a mortgage at this time, but to continue growing the CC to make the master plan a reality. Katerina Knesevic asked if we have a projection of costs to build Phase Two? That figure is estimated currently at \$2 million, which would include a gym and community center. Discussion continued on details of how to accomplish our goals in a timely manner. It all comes down to more participation. Risa Poniros asked about the potential for community grants – are churches eligible? George Pappas stated that endowments are ongoing, and all fundraising projects are being encouraged. John Compos spoke to the first building fund begun in the '50s, to replace the Person Street facility. He talked about the challenges to building the Lead Mine property, and the enthusiasm by the community which will grow as we grow. Chris Pappas posed the question that we consider the 70% who have not as yet committed, with some discussion on what it will take to get those parishioners to commit. Kevin Stavredes spoke to the growth of the parish, our many activities, and the space requirements. Dr. Connie Klederes made a motion to accept the recommendation by the CC to move forward, seconded by Harry Klederes. Some discussion followed on logistics to improve the existing master plan. Majority approved, and the motion carried.

Adjournment of the meeting at 1:45pm.

Closing Prayer by Father Paul.

Respectfully submitted,
Meg Economy