



MINUTES

GOMSF CHURCH MUSIC FEDERATION SECONDARY BUSINESS MEETING

Saturday, April 21, 2018

GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF SAN FRANCISCO

April 21, 2018 Castro Valley, CA

The meeting was called to order by President Levy at 11:00 a.m.

As no clergy were present, we opened the meeting with singing *Christos Anesti* and praying the Lord's Prayer.

President Levy welcomed the participants, and **Kay Harkins** thanked the 22 representatives of 10 Metropolis parishes who had traveled from as far away as Oregon, Arizona, and San Diego. 10 members of the Executive Board were among the 22 present.

Summer Business Meeting Minutes from August 2017 were presented for approval. **Fareeda Christ** moved to approve them; **Chris Vitakes** seconded the motion, and they were approved.

Treasurer **Costa Kourtis** presented his reports of Cash Receipts and Cash Disbursements and went over the balance sheet as of April 20, 2018, showing Total Liabilities and Equities of \$63,421.

Stewardship Chairman **Mario DiGiovanni** reported that the annual stewardship appeal went out on March 21, significantly later than usual. This year in order to give voices to all the parishes of the Metropolis during the year of transition discussions, the requirement of parish dues for parish participation in the Secondary Business Meeting and the Annual Conference Business Meeting in August was suspended. Individual stewardship was still requested, which could be made individually or by parishes on behalf of their church musicians. Likely because Holy Week and Pascha came so quickly after the appeal, only two church musicians had submitted their stewardship at the time of the meeting.

Chris Vitakes and **Liz Levy** spoke about upcoming awards to be presented at the Annual Conference. No nominations were submitted for award or scholarships for the previous conference. Promotional material and nomination forms will go out to the parishes in late spring to encourage nominations for awards and applications for scholarships.

Dr. Tikey Zes reported that there were two well-planned, well-presented, and well-received Church Music Institutes so far this year on the topic of the Eight Resurrectional Apolitikia hosted in Peoria, Arizona at St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church on November 18, 2017 and in Pasadena, California at St. Anthony Greek Orthodox church in January of 2018. An additional CMI is being planned for the Bay Area in June.

Applications for the newly revised Frank Desby & Xenia Anton Desby Memorial Music Scholarship will be accepted in late spring to be awarded at the Annual Conference in San Diego.

President Levy offered the 2017 Summer Conference Final Report. The conference, the first ever offered at St. Nicholas Ranch, drew praises from those who attended, and it was a fun, relaxing time full of learning not only about vocal and directing skills but also about the relationship of music to our faith. The hospitality of the nuns at the Monastery of the Life Giving Springs offered us inspiring time of prayer. The staff of the Ranch gave us great meals and great space for the

Saturday evening glendi. The beautiful small chapel at the Heritage center provided great acoustics for the sound of trained voices singing the Tikey Zes' Unison Hymnal. A hard copy detailed report of the survey results was presented to the attendees. The workshop topics and presenters were rated above 9 out of 10. A great enthusiasm for returning to the Ranch for conferences was indicated in the survey, especially it were in a cooler part of the year. A third of the respondents said they would like to return every year. The conference was a financial success with the Federation gaining over \$4,000 for its treasury.

President Levy reported that the 2018 annual conference is to be held at St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church in San Diego, August 24-26, 2018. A full amenity hotel has been secured at the rate of \$159 per night, and registrants can stay 4 nights at that rate. The hotel will begin taking reservations on April 24, 2018. A special directors' workshop will be held on Thursday evening featuring Dr. Eve Tibbs, Eikona will be performing on Friday evening, and the Saturday night banquet and glendi will be held at the hotel for everyone's ease and enjoyment. The Eikona sisters will be involved with chant and vocal training workshops

Tike Zes reported that the adult director has still not been selected. An additional meeting of the music committee is necessary to finalize the music, which will include two brand new works by Dr. Theodore Bogdanos.

A delicious salad and sandwich lunch, arranged by **Liz Levy** and **Carol Cach**, was sponsored by the host parish, Resurrection Greek Orthodox Church. *Christos Anesti* was sung again before the meal. Many thanks for the hospitality of this parish, which has opened its doors many times to us in the last few years.

After lunch, **Kay Harkins**, Federation Secretary and Transition Coordinator, presented the work of the board in response to the request of His Eminence last August that they find ways to transition to more fully functioning ministry of the Metropolis, engaging more church musicians in the actual functional operation of the organization and assuring that all forms of Orthodox church music continue to be represented.

The purpose of her presentation was to show the work the board had completed in considering many options to transform and revitalize the ministry and to open discussion for input from the church musicians present. In progress materials had been sent out before the meeting to prepare the participants for discussion in advance, and several people who were unable to attend sent in e-mail or other written responses. She emphasized that no final proposal or decisions been made and that the protocol of the by-laws would be followed in making any changes. Transition work and gathering of input will continue throughout the spring and summer so that any official proposals may be posted by the July 10 deadline before the August 25, 2018 business meeting.

She went over the provided materials and invited participants to move into small groups in order to efficiently gather as many questions and comments as possible in the remaining time of the meeting. Each group facilitator then shared a compendium of the comments and questions for further discussion and input. Lively and spirited discussion ensued and many divergent opinions were offered. She will be compiling and condensing the questions, comments, and opinions gathered and will be posting them to the newly revised website when it is complete in late May.

A group photo was taken and the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Harkins, Secretary