



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF SAN FRANCISCO CHURCH MUSIC FEDERATION WINTER BUSINESS MEETING

January 28, 2017

Long Beach, California

Minutes

President Liz Levy called the meeting to order at 10:25 am.

In the absence of the parish priest, the group joined in reciting The Lord's Prayer.

Announcements and Reports

Secretary Kay Harkins announced the delegate status as 15 souls representing 8 parishes. Five of the fifteen attendees were members of the board.

The Minutes of the Summer Business Meeting were presented for review. **Mary Futris** moved that they be approved, and **Josie Zorzy** seconded the motion. They were approved unanimously.

Treasurer Costa Kourtis presented the budget report reflecting the time period from August 2015 to January 2017. The Balance Sheet reflected total liabilities and equities of \$63,720.40 as of January 28, 2018. This report required no formal acceptance, but the group expressed their confidence and thanks to Costa for his careful work.

Our **Membership Director, Mario DiGiovanni**, was unable to attend the meeting but sent the following report, which was up to date on January 26, 2017.

Last Year in Review

The 2015-2016 fiscal year dues and stewardship campaign ended July 31, 2016. Total receipts for the 2015-2016 FY were \$7125: \$1750 for 21 adult and 5 youth program dues and \$5375 in stewardship averaging \$27.85 per steward. Membership is down 15% and Stewardship is down 27% vs. the prior year.

Current Year:

Listserv mailing took in mid-December.

By the end of the day on January 26, 2017, the Federation had received a total of \$2455 in dues and stewardship, \$70 more than at the same point last year. Parish dues were received for total dues of \$550. Stewardship was received totaling \$1905, averaging \$37.34 per steward.

Mailing List Updates

The Federation maintains both paper and e-mail addresses in order to contact its stewards. We prefer to use e-mail due to its speed and low cost however the Archdiocesan Listserv system will automatically delete addresses that are determined not to exist. (Sometimes this is caused by the mis-typing of an address from a paper update form.)

- The best way to update your contact information is to mail it to Mario via e-mail at mnkdigi@comcast.net.
- The next best way is to e-mail the President's address: sfchurchmusic@sanfran.goarch.org and the message will be passed along. This address is also accessible via the Contact Us tab on the Federation web site.
- And, finally you can use the paper stewardship and update form and send it to Mario at the address indicated.

Web Site

He has endeavored to keep the site up to date with changes in the planned CMIs. Unfortunately those have been mostly cancellations due to lack of interest. We need to consider whether moving the CMIs to January - February vs. October - November is a viable approach.

Most of the 2016 Summer Conference information has also been removed to prepare for 2017. He expects to post conference information as soon as it is available.

Chris Vitakes of the Awards Committee reported that no George George awards were given last year, because there were no nominations. There were 3 Katherine Trapp awards for youth musicians.

Tike Zes, chair of the **Music Committee** was also unable to attend the meeting due on an injury he sustained this month. Only one CMI has been held so far, on October 22, 2016 in Belmont, CA, which he facilitated. He will also be facilitating the upcoming CMI on Saturday, February 11, 2017, in Long Beach, CA. After productive discussion, it was determined that the e-mail announcements of all CMIs would be sent out to all stewards in all the regions.

Liz Levy reported that the **Xenia Anton Desby Memorial Organ Scholarship** was not awarded this past year, as no one applied for it.

Liz Levy gave the final report on the **2016 Summer Conference**, relating that although her parish, Resurrection Castro Valley, volunteered at the last minute to host the conference, it was lively and well received, even returning a small profit to the parish. All members of the delegation who attended the conference affirmed that it was a beautiful and meaningful experience for the 70 people who attended.

President Levy also informed the delegation that a location for the **2017 Summer Conference** has not yet been secured, as two parishes that showed great interest were unable to support a conference this year. She is diligently pursuing more options, but it may be there will only be a Summer Business Meeting this year. The possibility of having

the business meeting, or even perhaps the conference itself at Saint Nicholas Ranch was put forth, even if the conference would need to be held in the last weeks of August.

Old Business

After a discussion determining that there were no historical barriers to changing the name and widening the scope of the existing organ scholarship, **the re-wording of the Xenia Anton Desby Organ Scholarship (title, parameters, and requirements)**, will be brought forward to the stewards at the Summer Business Meeting this year. The committee working on this project will finalize their revisions to allow the scholarship to be given to qualified church musicians in all areas of church music.

Liz Levy, having received confirmation that neither **Athena Mertes** nor **Amanda Dena Fields** are currently in a position to begin work on the Youth Music Specialist committee, has requested that **Kathy Meck** take leadership in moving this ministry forward. Kathy is considering the request, but has not yet made a commitment.

New Business

The delegation reviewed the work that the **by-laws committee** has done so far. The clarification and accuracy of terms such as “Assembly” and “quorum” as well as the designation of the nature of business and planning meeting function and timing will be necessary in their continuing work to bring proposed changes to the body at the Summer Business Meeting.

Liz Levy will be contacting Metropolitan Gerasimos immediately, in order to schedule meeting as soon as possible with His Eminence and the Federation Board (and as many Regional Administrators who may attend) in order to receive his support and guidance in the continuance of the ministry of the Federation, which appears to be at a critical crossroads this year.

Adjournment and Gratitude

Father Christos Kanakis arrived to extend his greetings to the delegation and to offer prayer before the delicious lunch prepared by the Philoptochos of the Assumption parish. Many thanks are expressed to them and to the parish for their warm hospitality exemplified by their generous and tasty breakfast buffet along with the wonderful lunch.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m. as warm fellowship ensued over lunch.

Respectfully submitted,
Kay Harkins,
Secretary