CALL TO ORDER
President Ted Niforos called the meeting to order at 9:50 am and led the members in the Federation’s Opening Prayer. Ted welcomed everyone, especially new Outstate Michigan Representative, Ruthie Munk and Stewardship Chair, Tony Thrubis.

MINUTES
The minutes of the March 31, 2012 Executive Board meeting by Mary Matzorkis are still under review and will be transmitted to Ted. They will be in the agenda of the Fall Executive Board meeting.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT
It was noted that the President takes over after Oath of Office at the Convention. Ted has been engaged in much email and phone communication to get things started up.

The Federation is still looking for State Representatives for Western Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Northwest/Central Ohio, and Tennessee/Arkansas. Peter Vatsures noted that Mike Orfanopoulos scheduling a meeting with the directors of Pittsburgh.

ACTION: Ted will contact Valerie Baker to see if she would accept being the Northwest/Central; Ohio Representative again. Peter will see if he can find a volunteer for Pittsburgh and Vicki will do the same through her email contacts.

TREASURER’S REPORT
Peter Vatsures presented a Treasurer’s Report for the year as of 8/23/12. The beginning balance was $10,252.54, with income of $16,044.85 and expanses of $13,295.86, leaving an ending balance of $13,001.88, which was $4,813.00 under budget. Peter noted that last year’s budget reflected a 20% across the board cut. There are still a few more bills and some possible stewardship payments expected until the financial year ends on August 31st.

Peter also reported that he has received a 2011 Convention report from Ann Arbor, but that it still needs to be presented and approved by the Executive Board.

STEWARDSHIP
Peter Vatsures reported receiving stewardship payments from 56 parishes up until this meeting. The Stewardship year continues until August 31st. He sent a reminder letter in July, and received 6-7 late payments. He noted that there are still major parishes that are not stewards.
Tony Thrubis has agreed to continue as Stewardship chairman. He personalizes letters to each member parish and requests that they increase their contribution. The average stewardship contribution is almost $100.

**ACTION:** In November, Tony and Peter will send out this year’s appeal to the updated Parish Leadership list. Vicki will follow-up with an electronic communication reminder.

**MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

Dan Packis reported that three scholarships were awarded at the Convention this year. It was noted how beautiful the Memorial Service was at the Convention Liturgy; one of the electronic Echo issues this coming year will publicize the Memorial Service and link to the website where all the names should be posted.

**ACTION:** Dan is sending thank you notes to those who made Scholarship donations at the Convention.

**ACTION:** The 2012 list of deceased MEGOX church musicians should be posted on the website.

There was discussion about the need to increase the corpus of the Scholarship Fund. After reading the Federation procedures, it was decided that the Federation should again make annual donations to the corpus of the Fund. There was also discussion about retiring the special scholarships and incorporating their funds into corpus as well.

**MOTION PASSED** (Vicki Pappas/Elaine Charalambopoulos) to establish a budget line of $250 for an annual Federation contribution to the corpus of the Memorial Scholarship Fund.

**ACTION:** Ted will discuss the possibilities of retiring the Hadgis and Georgantas scholarship funds with the appropriate individuals.

**ACTION:** Dan made a formal recommendation to investigate professional investment management foundations to manage our Scholarship fund and make more interest.

**STATE REPRESENTATIVES ORIENTATION:**

The Federation’s State Representatives are the “face” and the “voice” of the Federation! Thus, it’s important for the representatives to make frequent contacts with their parishes.

Ted has sent the State Representatives the list of parishes in their area along with contact people and emails, the State Rep Checklists, a job description, the Governance Manual as updated so far, and the new Federation brochure. If a representative can’t attend a meeting, a report should be submitted to Dan Packis as Vice-President. The officers made a wealth of suggestions about various topics to use in discussion with parishes.

**ACTION:** State Rep forms should be added to the website. Vicki will send Ted the revised checklists and Facebook and Website addresses, including the National Forum’s.

**FEDERATION ARCHIVES**

Two years ago, Peter Vatsures, Bill Leogas, Vicki Pappas, and Mary Ameredes sorted and consolidated all the Federation archives that had been stored at the Annunciation Church in Akron. Music was distributed to member choirs and other items were consolidated into one 4-drawer cabinet; another 4-drawer cabinet with a wheel base was also purchased and sent to the Church.

After this year’s Convention, Peter and Vicki went again to Akron to evaluate the materials that had been deposited at the Church from Mary Ameredes’s home, and sorted through them. They saved all past Echo’s, Convention Albums, photographs, and the first-year minutes book for digitizing.
The officers discussed the extent the Federation wanted an archival library. We would need to find a place that would house two 4-drawer file cabinets, and possibilities were brainstormed.

**ACTION:** The 2012-13 budget should include monies for scanning and trips to Akron to complete the consolidation process.

**VISIT OF FATHER TEODOR**
The officers engaged in an informal conversation with Father Teodor Petrutiu, who stopped by the meeting. He noted how amazing it was how we are able to have a wonderful Convention each year, and noted that it is very important to get together to share and to do this every year. He also commented how important it was that our parishes now have a common translation of Christos Anesti, and that he was very pleased to see this. The group discussed translations, the pace of change in the Church, and other church music matters with Father Teodor.

**YOUTH INITIATIVE**
Ted hopes to stress recruitment and involvement of 25-45 years olds. Vicki noted National Forum materials that are available to foster youth programs in the parishes.

**2012 CONVENTION EVALUATION**
Dan reported on the Convention, which he felt mostly went very well. Dan noted that more than half of the Convention participants were from Ohio parishes. The Rocky River community was amazed at the sound. Another positive was the visitability of the new Metropolitan Savas, whom many had never met before. We were pleased that both Metropolitans were able to attend.

There will be a profit; the total net income is expected to be $11-$18,000. They are waiting for a few more promised donations from underwriters.

There were 20 or so registrations that arrived in the last week, which made it very difficult for Convention planning. Dan recommended to the next Host City that the early registration differential be increased even more for those registering within the last two weeks.

Some Patron donations were received through registration.

**ACTION:** Dan/Registration Committee will send Ann Niforos the names, addresses, and amounts.

The goal for the recording is to have it complete by next week. They will run the final proof by Neal before the final recording is issued.

The officers discussed preferences for music, economics, and reasons for attendance and non-attendance. Some suggestions included:

1. Acknowledge people who attend the Convention from outside our Metropolises.
2. There wasn’t a Vespers service, although there was a Doxology. We should save some time for some type of service with the Metropolitans.

Barb and Vicki tallied the evaluations from each session of the Church Music Institute. The evaluations were again excellent. All presenters received very high marks. Suggestions for future CMI’s were reviewed and will be taken into consideration in future plans.

**BYZANTINE ECHO**
Stan has set a deadline of the first week of September to get the Echo copy to the printer. This is the last issue of the ECHO that the Federation will be printing and mailing. Stan will include a notice about the upcoming electronic versions. Barbara Minton and Vicki Pappas will serve as co-editors of the electronic ECHO. They will commence issues in the month following receipt of the last printed
ECHO. They will be able to include more color, more pictures, and links to websites and YouTube podcasts, at no cost. Issues will be more frequent, and information more timely. The “Mini-Echo” will be discontinued.

**ACTION:** Stan requested and received permission to have 8 pages and a center spread of colored pictures in this issue, since our budget situation is more positive.

Stan reported that he and Nicholas Bodle have been in conversation about the Federation website. A gallery of pictures will be included. Stan and Nicholas are also keeping the Federation Facebook page up-to-date.

**GOVERNANCE**

Vicki Pappas and Barbara Minton, as Co-Chairs of the Governance Committee, reported that they had completed a draft of revisions for the Convention section of the Operational Procedures. The rest of the Governance Committee is reviewing their work, and a final product is targeted for the October meeting, where a vote will be taken to incorporate the revised Convention section into our Operational Procedures.

**ACTION:** It was suggested that a framework of the basic schedule be added so each year we don’t have to start from scratch. Any requests for variations by the host city could be presented to the Executive Board. Vicki and Barb will work to incorporate this suggestion.

**ACTION:** For IRS purposes, sections on the dissolution of the Federation and the Scholarship Fund will be added to the Constitution, By-laws, and Procedures. It was suggested to follow the practice for the dissolution of the Scholarship Fund which is already present in the Operational Procedures.

**CINCINNATI CONVENTION**

At the Convention, Cincinnati had presented a tentative bid for the 2013 Convention. Ted reported that he has now received a formal letter of intent from the parish, Father Bill Cassis, the Parish Council President, and Janice Kellaris, Chiro Director.

**MOTION PASSED** (Peter Vatsures/Barbara Minton) to acknowledge receipt of the letter of intent and accept the formal bid of Cincinnati to host the 2013 Convention.

Janice communicated that she is now looking for hotel options and starting to set up her committees.

**ACTION:** We will send Janice the newly revised Operational Procedures for Conventions.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was decided to hold the Fall Executive Board meeting on Saturday, October 6th.

**ACTION:** Dan will handle the set-up of the meeting and will check with Dayton to see if they can host the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

**Vicki Pappas**

Vicki Pappas, Secretary