MID-EASTERN FEDERATION OF GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH MUSICIANS
Federation Council Meeting Minutes
June 8, 2019
Annunciation Church
Cleveland, Ohio

Present: Vicki Pappas, President; Nicholas Bodle, Vice-President; Peter Vatsures, Treasurer and Pittsburgh Metropolis Liaison; Barbara Minton, Detroit Metropolis Liaison/Detroit Metro Rep; Maria Futules, Secretary; Elaine Charalambopoulos, Assistant Secretary; Dan Packis, Memorial Scholarship Chair; Irene Georgantas, Scholarship Trustee; Rev. Frank Milanese, Spiritual Advisor; Kyriakos Theophanos, NE Ohio State Rep; and Margaret Safos, St. Demetrios/Rocky River. Nine parishes were represented.

1. Welcome: President Vicki Pappas convened the meeting of the Federation Council and welcomed those present. The meeting opened with a prayer and hymn singing.

2. Minutes: The minutes of the previous Federation Council meeting (July 19, 2018) were reviewed.

   MOTION PASSED (Nicholas Bodle/Peter Vatsures) to accept the minutes as reviewed.

3. President’s Report: Vicki Pappas reviewed activities to date based on MEGOFOX goals for the year.
   A. Continuing Education Committee
      • The grants program has begun implementation. The Committee reviewed and awarded one request.
      • There is now a budget line to show restricted CE monies.
   B. 2019 Convention Site
      • Host was confirmed to be St. Nicholas of Troy, Michigan.
      • Vicki noted an insight that priests are very supportive of hosting a convention in their parishes.
   C. MEGOFOX Support of Local Church Music Activities
      • Vicki reviewed events held in Akron, Southgate, Detroit Metro, North Royalton, and Buffalo/Jamestown.
      • Future Goals should Include:
         1. MEGOFOX should continue to encourage and support more church music activities at local area levels.
         2. Develop a model for churches that are not in urban clusters.
         3. It was suggested that MEGOFOX venture south to initiate activities.
4. It was also suggested MEGGOX develop activities where choir and chanters work together.

4. **Financial Reports:** Presented by Peter Vatsures
   A. The Financial Statement covered the time period 09/01/2018 to 08/31/2019
      - The report includes activities as of 05/13/2019.
      - MEGGOX total income is $10,305.80 out of $16,879.00 budgeted.
      - Total expenses are $5,078.03 out of $17,100.00 budgeted.
      - The current checkbook balance is $21,476.64.
      - Savings balance is $6,317.34.
   B. **Stewardship:** Peter reported that 47 parishes are current in their 2018-19 stewardship. 31 parishes have not yet submitted stewardship.
   C. **Patrons:** Peter gave Anna Niforos’s submitted report.
      - As of 09/01/2018 through 05/30/2019, we have received a total of $1409.92 in donations.
      - Since inception of the Patrons Program in 2009, we have received a total of $21,476.64 in donations.
      - The goal is to increase individual donations.
   D. **Electronic Payments Update:** Nicholas Bodle reported.
      - Our PayPal account is open for Memorial Scholarship, Patron, and other donations. It is slowly growing in usage.
      - We have not yet opened it for registration and parish stewardship.
   E. **Memorial Scholarship:** Dan Packis presented the report.
      - Dan presented preliminary figures regarding the performance of the Fund given our initial contribution to the Cleveland Foundation. The interest is far beyond what we had been getting previously, and now we have a professional organization managing the funds. Interest not used for scholarships can be re-deposited so that the principle will grow.
      - There was discussion of procedures/processes concerning changes brought on by moving scholarship funds to the Foundation.
      - A suggestion was made that recipients, after a year, send us a report or letter as to how the money was used and indicating their participation in church or church music activities.
      - The Scholarship application date was moved to June 25th for this year only. The date on the online form needs to be updated from April to May.

5. **2019 Convention in Troy:**
   A. St. Nicholas considers hosting the Convention as a service to the entire Metropolis. Their planning has exhibited this vision.
   B. Thursday CMI’s start at 2:00 pm. Advertise to encourage on-time attendance.
C. Friday morning’s start time may be problematic due to construction. As time gets closer, we will communicate driving directions.

D. We should investigate putting the CMI sessions on the Internet.

E. For Saturday’s workshop and Sunday’s Liturgy, Metropolitan Nicholas is coordinating with Metropolitan Savas regarding his participation.

F. At the Saturday lunch, we will try to arrange it so directors can sit together for discussion purposes.

G. We are encouraging parishes to submit their ads for the Album, which Barbara is coordinating, as per St. Nicholas’s request. All ads are full pages except for the various Benefactor listings.

6. Looking Forward:
   A. We anticipate that the 2020 Clergy Laity Congress will be held in Cleveland. Vicki and Peter visited potential sites. The Pittsburgh Metropolis has already reserved lodging for MEFGOX at the Drury Inn Downtown. The National Forum will be determining music and Guest Director for the Divine Liturgy and other events as requested.
   B. Vicki Pappas has returned to serving the National Forum as National Chairman due to the death of Maria Keritsis.
   C. Vicki has started formation of a Music Review Committee to assist us with the selection of music for Conventions.
   D. At the July meeting, Vicki plans to propose the elimination of the Spring Federation Council Meeting so that we hold one meeting at the Convention. This is due to the low participation of parishes in the Spring meeting; usually, only officers and a few others have been attending.

7. Adjournment:
   Upon a motion Maria Futules, seconded by Kyriakos Theophanos, the meeting adjourned at 12:39 pm.

8. Post Lunch:
   Father Milanese presented a talk on the cycle of hymns and how various ecclesiastical cycles affect what hymns and readings occur during the Divine Liturgy. In summary, it is important to know what we are doing and to present it in English.

   Nicholas Bodle led the group through samples of his new liturgical setting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elaine Charalambopoulos
Assistant Recording Secretary pro temp
## ATTENDANCE: Members in Good Standing

**June 8, 2019**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Locations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>None represented</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>Southgate/St. George</td>
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<td>Westland/Ss. Constantine &amp; Helen</td>
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<td>Buffalo/Annunciation</td>
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<td>Columbus/Annunciation Cathedral</td>
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<td>North Royalton/St. Paul</td>
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<td>Rocky River/St. Demetrios</td>
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<td>Youngstown/St. John</td>
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<td>Tennessee</td>
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<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>Weirton/All Saints</td>
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