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### ■ A Report from the Philanthropic Guild of our Holy Metropolis

## Regular General Meeting of the St. Philaret the Merciful Guild

Phyle, Attica, February 7/20, 2022



**O**n Sunday, February 7/20, 2022, at 5:30 p.m., with the blessing of our Most Reverend spiritual Father, Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Phyle, the annual General Meeting of the members of the St. Philaret the Merciful Guild was held at the Offices of our Guild, in Phyle, Attica.

In attendance were the Members of the Board of Directors, Ms. Athena Choriatopoulou, Ms. Aimilia Goufa, and Ms. Justina Phokianou, as well as more than one-third of the Guild’s regular members, as is required by the Statutes in order for a General Meeting to take place.

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**The Chancellor** of our Holy Metropolis, the Reverend Archimandrite Theodosios (Abbot of the Monastery of Sts. Cyprian and Justina), was present at the opening of the meeting in order to convey the best wishes and blessing of our Most Reverend Metropolitan.

He spoke about the special nature of volunteerism within the context of a collective ecclesiastical endeavor: everything takes place and is organized with the blessing and direction of our spiritual guide, to whose judgment the members should defer with regard to their various initiatives and proposals concerning their ministries.

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As usual, the meeting began with a brief prayer, during which the monastic members of the Guild chanted the Apolytikia to the Patron Saints of our Metropolis and our Guild.



Elected by a simple majority were: Mrs. Evgenia Giatrakou, President; Mrs. Salmatana Korre, Vice-President, and Mrs. Aikaterina Phokianou, Secretary.

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In accordance with Article 6 of the Statutes of the Guild, the following issues were discussed:

- **The Record of Activities of 2021**, as well as an update on the daily activities of the Guild and the beneficiaries it assists, was given by the President of the Board, Mrs. Athena Choriatopoulou.

- **The financial reports for the year 2021 and budget for the year 2022** were read by the Guild's Treasurer, Mrs. Aimilia Goufa and were unanimously approved by the attending members.

- **The Report of the Audit Committee** was read by Mrs. Mirianthi Pagoulatou-Toumba. Everything was found to be formally correct and in accordance with the Statutes of the Guild.

- **The Evaluation Report of the Social Care Services:** Mrs. Aimilia Goufa informed the Guild of the unexpected visit to the Guild's offices, on September 2, 2021, by the **Social Advisors of the Region of Attica**. They did a complete audit of the Guild's documents and observed the distribution of food that was being carried out by the Guild's volunteers that day. The subsequent eight-page report of the Social Advisors concluded that the Guild operates in an organized and effective manner and fulfills the purpose of its existence.

- ▶ **The members of the General Meeting** did not accept the suggestion of the governing committee of the Region of Attica to separate their social care work from their activities disseminating the values of the Gospel, since the St. Philaret the Merciful Guild was founded by, and operates under, the guidance of the Holy Metropolis of Oropos and Phyle, in order to carry out its philanthropic and social work in an or-



ganized and effective way. Article 3, § 1 of the Statutes states that the purpose of the Guild is predominantly philanthropic, and under no circumstances whatsoever is it permitted to alter it to something else. Moreover, §2 states that the realization of the goals of the Guild is always pursued in cooperation with its spiritual Guild, namely the Metropolitan of Oropos and Phyle.



► **T**he members stressed, however, that our Guild does not and will not discriminate (on the basis of class, race, religion, etc.) against people in need.

**T**here being nothing else on the agenda to discuss, the President concluded the General Meeting, which was once again conducted with perfect order and unity of spirit at the Offices of our Guild.

**G**lory to God for all things!

*From the Secretary of the Guild*

