

ARCHDIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH AND WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA  
ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
1 DECEMBER 2011

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A meeting of the Archdiocesan Council took place at the Cranberry Twp. Archdiocesan Center on December 1, 2011. His Grace, Bishop Melchisedek called the meeting to order with prayer at 6:45 PM. The following members of the Archdiocesan Council were present for the meeting in addition to the hierarch: Archpriests/Priests Igumen Patrick (Carpenter), W. Evansky (*Secretary*), D. Hendershot (*Treasurer*), G. Johnson, J. Kopcha, M. Senyo, G. Thompson, J. Wargo; Ms. R. Danchenko; Messrs. G. Avdakov, S. Daniels, G. Nescott, Subden. J. Schultz, G. Sidorick, N. Sidorick, W. Truckley.

1. The meeting began with the official installation prayer being administered by Bishop Melchisedek to the entire 2011-2012 Archdiocesan Council present. New members Fr. Gregory Thompson and Mr. Wayne Truckley were welcomed to the Council. Fr. Evansky reminded all Council members to review the recently emailed Council membership list and forward any corrections/updates to him so a final revision could be forwarded.

2. A *motion* was made by Fr. J. Kopcha and seconded to accept the September 2011 Council meeting minutes as previously emailed while foregoing a reading of those minutes. (*Passed unanimously*)

3. The status of the investment concerning the approximately 1.2 million from the bequest to the Archdiocese by Archbishop Kyrill of blessed memory was discussed. Upon a request, the secretary read aloud the exact language of the motion concerning this subject as written in the just-approved September 2011 meeting minutes. The work of the ad hoc committee charged with implementing this motion was discussed at length. A *motion* was made by Fr. M. Senyo and seconded to approve F.N.B. as the sole investment firm for investing the entire amount with a report concerning these investments submitted to the Archdiocesan Council for review prior to November 1, 2012. After extensive discussion the motion was *defeated* (*Yes = 5/ No = 9 / Abstention = 1*).

A *motion* was then made by G. Nescott and seconded to split the investment of exactly 1.2 million of the bequest evenly between F.N.B. and B.P.U. with the reports concerning the investment results being submitted to the Archdiocesan Council prior to November 1, 2012; and, furthermore, that the specific funds being approved be confirmed as the following items submitted to the 2011 Archdiocesan Assembly as listed on the Treasurer's Report "Summary of Active Accounts" page: NexTier Bank Money Market #1567; First National CD #3533; First National CD #8763; and, finally, that the treasurer explore the possibility of investing the balance of these accounts with the L.C.B.A. organization.

*(Motion passed: Yes = 11/ No = 4)*

By consensus, it was agreed to ask the F.N.B. representative for assistance in developing our Archdiocesan investment policy. Also, Fr. Senyo will contact F.N.B. to have that firm's representative contact the bishop for follow-up action. N. Sidorick will do likewise with B.P.U.

4. The written treasurer's report submitted was discussed. A *motion* to approve the report as submitted was made by Igumen Patrick (Carpenter) and seconded. (*Passed unanimously*)

5. Dr. John Schultz then reported on his research concerning the hierarch's health plan, including written insurance information for comparison purposes. A *motion* was made by Dr. Schultz and seconded to approve UPMC for Life Medicare Advantage Program during calendar year 2012 for Bishop Melchisedek. (*Motion passed unanimously*)

6. It was requested (and agreed upon by consensus) that Council meetings scheduled in 2012 be returned to Monday evenings - 6:30 PM starting times (excluding item #7 below).

7. A request was made to hold a special extended meeting of the Archdiocesan Council to discuss in depth several pressing problems (i.e. evangelization/ church growth/ parish development) early in 2012. By consensus, it was agreed that this critical **special planning meeting** be held on Saturday, January 21, 2012, at the St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral (Allison Park) beginning with Liturgy at 8 AM. The “strategic planning” event will conclude no later than 2 PM on that date. It was noted that all Council members are needed!

8. Fr. Patrick commented on the excellent progress being made at the Orthodox Food Pantry located at his parish on the Southside of Pittsburgh, including the wonderful Thanksgiving meals distributed in collaboration with the Pittsburgh Police Department and other Southside civic groups. Extra help for the food pantry was needed during the upcoming Christmas season; those willing to assist were urged to contact Fr. Patrick.

9. Bishop Melchisedek began a discussion concerning the administrative assistant position approved as a budgetary line item by the 2011 Archdiocesan Assembly. He mentioned that he is constructing a specific job description and has two potential candidates to be interviewed. An ad hoc committee of Igumen Patrick (Carpenter), Fr. M. Senyo, and G. Nescott were appointed to work with the hierarch on this matter.

10. In response to a query from the Council, His Grace noted that he hopes to have an excellent working relationship with Metropolitan Savas, soon to be officially installed as the new hierarch of the Metropolis of Pittsburgh in the Greek Archdiocese.

11. Having no further business, a *motion to adjourn* was made at 8:03 PM by Fr. G. Thompson. The meeting closed with prayer led by the hierarch.

Respectfully submitted in Christ,

//signed//

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Very Rev. William Evansky  
Secretary

Approved:

//signed//

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The Right Rev. Melchisedek  
Bishop of Pittsburgh and Western PA

//signed//

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Very Rev. Paul Ziatyk  
Chancellor