

Diocese of Pittsburgh & Western Pennsylvania
Archdiocesan Council Meeting
October 1, 2012

A meeting of the Archdiocesan Council took place at the Archdiocesan Center on October 1, 2012. Bishop Melchisedek called the meeting to order following prayer at 6:30 PM.

The following were present: Chancellor Archpriest William Evansky; Archpriests/Priests: Michael Senyo, Secretary; George York, George Johnson, Joseph Wargo, Patrick (Carpenter), John Kopcha, Mark Meholick, Gregory Thompson. From the laity: Gregory Nescott, Gregory Avdakov, Dr. John Schulz, Nicholas Sidorick, Wayne Truckley, Rebecca Danchenko, Serge Daniels, and Gregory Sidorick. Also present: Reader B. Migyanko, Helen Billak.

Note: The agenda for this meeting and the proposed budget for 2013 were distributed to the Council prior to the meeting via electronic mail. Copies on file.

The minutes of the July 7, 2012, meeting were read by the Secretary. Approved with no corrections or additions.

Financial Report:

Helen Billak, newly appointed Treasurer, was introduced to the Council by Vladyka, who noted that the office of Treasurer is an ex-officio position on the Council.

The Treasurer's report was given by Archpriest Dennis Hendershot. Copies were distributed and filed. The Treasurer also provided a summary of active accounts (copy filed). Updates on the investments with First National Bank and BPU were also provided. Chancellor Evansky advised that the funds designated to be invested with BPU will be deposited on October 2, 2012. A motion was made by Archpriest William Evansky; seconded by G. Avdakov. Motion passed.

Correspondence:

- The Secretary read a note of thanks from retired Chancellor, Archpriest Paul Ziatyk.
- The Secretary read a letter from Melanie Ringa, Treasurer of the Orthodox Church in America, explaining that the dioceses of the Church will be required to share the approximate \$50,000 costs for the forthcoming Electoral All American Council. (Copy filed.) Archpriest Dennis Hendershot reported the Archdiocese will be billed \$4,000.00 for this assessment.
- The Secretary read the proposal of the Autism Housing Development Corporation (AHOC) for the purchase of the Reed Street property. It was decided to take action on this matter under Old Business. (Copy filed.)

Report of the Ruling Bishop:

Vladyka reported:

- The Holy Synod met in extraordinary session in Detroit, MI, on August 13, during which the date was set for the Electoral Council on November 13, 2012, at Holy Trinity Church in Parma, OH.
- He attended the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of North and Central America in Chicago, IL, on September 10-12, 2012.
- He attended the meeting of the Metropolitan Council in New York, on September 25-27, 2012. Vladyka serves as the Episcopal Liaison for the Internal Governance and Charities Departments. His Grace also noted that a Synodal Gramota was awarded to Metropolitan Council member, Gregory Nescott.

Archdiocese:

Vladyka reported:

- The retirement of Archpriest Paul Ziatyk. Deacon Nikolai Breckenridge is to be ordained to the Holy Priesthood and assigned to New Kensington.
- Priest Evgeny Peykov is to be assigned to Wolf Run/Amsterdam.
- Archpriest John Govrusik entered into retirement. Priest Elijah Bremer has been assigned to Central City, Boswell, and Pine Hill.
- Legal proceedings against Priest Rumen Stoychev are progressing. At the conclusion of civil actions, the ecclesial/canonical investigation of the actions of Priest Rumen Stoychev will commence.
- Archpriests Michael Senyo and William Evansky and Helen Billak were appointed to the Archdiocesan Administration.
- Priest John Parker, Chairman of the Orthodox Church in America's Department of Evangelization gave talks to those assembled on Family Day on August 19, 2012, and addressed the clergy at the Synaxis held on August 20, 2012.
- Joseph Kormos, a consultant on Church growth and parish revitalization discussed his programs at meetings held on September 17, 2012, at the Archdiocesan Center.

Chancellor's Report:

Archpriest William Evansky reported:

- The period of transition has been orderly and met with good cooperation at all levels of Church life in the Archdiocese.
- Deans were elected: Archpriest Joseph Wargo for Allegheny-Beaver Valley; Archpriest Mark Meholick for Altoona-Johnstown.
- The Chancellor is working towards the establishment of a Dean's Council, which will meet regularly.
- The Chancellor will note transitions and assignments in a timely manner, publishing such in the normal outlets.
- The Chancellor will initiate a process of reviewing the work of the various Departments and Department Chairs.

Old/Unfinished Business:

- **Reed Street (former Saint Michael Cathedral) Property:** AHOC has made an offer of \$65,000 for the property. Following some discussion, Igumen Patrick (Carpenter) moved to contact AHOC to determine if their offer was still standing as of October 2, 2012, and to also inquire of AICO parking, Duquesne University, and others for bids on the Reed Street property by October 20, 2012, with determinations to be completed by November 20, 2012. Second was provided by Dr. John Schulz. Motion passed.
- **Family Day:** No report was given.
- **Incorporation & By Laws:** Gregory Nescott reported that work will be initiated after the New Year.
- **Archdiocesan Center/Long Range Planning:** No report was given.

Old/Unfinished Business, cont'd.:

- **Parish Development:** The presentation of Joseph Kormos from September 17, 2012, was considered. Discussion reflected the concerns of some regarding costs; others were concerned with results and participation of parishes. Gregory Nescott moved that the Archdiocesan Council recommend to the Archdiocesan Assembly that up to \$50,000 in funds be taken from the endowment left by Archbishop Kyrill be expended for parish health and development programs to be initiated for the year 2013. Second by Dr. John Schulz. Motion passed.

New Business:

- Igumen Patrick (Carpenter) moved to welcome Helen Billak to the Council, and to express thanks for her willingness to assume the duties of Treasurer. Second by Serge Daniels. Motion passed.
- Archpriest Dennis Hendershot moved to respond to the request of the Orthodox Church in America to provide financial assistance to the delegates of the Alaskan and Mexican Dioceses to attend the Electoral Council, in the amount of \$1,521.04. Seconded by Dr. John Schulz. Motion passed.
- **2013 Budget:** Archpriest Dennis Hendershot reviewed the proposed budget. An income source of \$4.00 per week X 52 weeks X 2000 members was proposed, bearing an overall income of \$416,000.00.
 - Following discussion, Archpriest George Johnson moved: having heard the Budget presentation the Council shall defer from acting on this budget as proposed, until the presentation of the Hierarch at the Annual Assembly. Motion failed to gain a second.
 - Igumen Patrick (Carpenter) moved that the Council approve a budget based upon collecting \$161.00 from each member of the Archdiocese, representing that \$95.00 is designated for the Central Church and \$66.00 to the Archdiocese, with any deficit being made up from reserved funds. Seconded by Serge Daniels. Motion passed.
- **Report of the Metropolitan Council:** Gregory Nescott referred the Council to the OCA website, also speaking of sexual misconduct issues.
- **Review of Expiring Terms:** The Chancellor reviewed terms and upcoming vacancies for the representatives to the Metropolitan Council and seats on the Archdiocesan Council.
- **Forty Liturgies:** Vladyka reported this will be continued during the Nativity fast.

The next meeting will be determined at the conclusion of the Archdiocesan Assembly.

Adjournment at 10:30 PM.

Archpriest Michael Senyo
Secretary

Approved for distribution:

Bishop Melchisedek

Archpriest William Evansky