

**Diocese of Pittsburgh & Western Pennsylvania**  
**Archdiocesan Council Meeting**  
**January 30, 2017**

A meeting of the Archdiocesan Council took place at the Archdiocesan Center (Cranberry Twp., PA) on January 30, 2017. Archbishop Melchisedek called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

The following were present: Archbishop Melchisedek, Chancellor Archpriest William Evansky; Archpriests: Michael Senyo, Secretary; Igumen Patrick (Carpenter), Samuel Smolcic; Priest: Nikolai Breckenridge, Deacon: Seraphim Truckley. From the laity: Alexis Parshook, Treasurer; Gregg Nescott, Justin Nescott, Rebecca Danchenko, Gregory Ohler, Dr. John Schultz, and Serge Daniels. Three clergymen requested to be excused: Archpriests: George Johnson, Gregory Petersen, and Mark Meholick.

**Secretarial Report:**

Minutes of the previous meeting were distributed electronically prior to this meeting. There were no corrections or additions.

**Financial Report:**

Presented by Alexis Parshook: A written report was distributed electronically prior to the meeting. A copy was filed. Investment accounts were reported at \$1.6 million. Dr. John Schultz moved to accept the report. Seconded by Justin Nescott. Report accepted.

Ms. Parshook reported on the findings of the external auditors, who reported several errors and items which required correcting. These errors were attributed to a turnover in personnel at the Treasurer's position, together with unfamiliarity with the Quick Books program. The final review of both internal and external auditors (Wm. T. Grimm & Associates) disclosed the errors and corrections. The cost of this extraordinary audit is estimated to be approximately \$1,000.00.

**Correspondence:** None received.

**Report of the Ruling Bishop:** (Copy filed.)

His Eminence:

- summarized parish visitations within the Diocese;
- ordained Subdeacon Andrew Nelko to the Diaconate at St. Tikhon's Monastery;
- ordained Deacon Joel Brady, on behalf of Archbishop Michael of New York, to the priesthood at St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral;
- attended, with Archpriest Michael Senyo, the installation of Bishop Ireney of the Eastern American Diocese of the Serbian Orthodox Church, at Holy Trinity Cathedral;
- listed vacant parishes: Steubenville, Mingo Junction, Masontown, W. Brownsville, Weirton, Moundsville, Monessen, Homestead, Black Lick and Philipsburg;
- noted the date of the annual Small Parish Conference to be held in July at St. John the Baptist Church in New Kensington;
- noted By-Laws for the Archdiocese were approved in November at the Annual Assembly;

- noted approval at the same assembly for the sale of portions of the Diocesan property in Cranberry Twp., Butler County, PA.

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**Chancellor's Report:**

Father Chancellor discussed:

- presence at Deanery Meetings and meeting with the Deans;
- closing of the Bellaire, Ohio, parish and the sale of the property;
- retreats for the laity and clergy scheduled for June 2017;
- Catechetical program;
- Chancellor's meeting with OCA Administration in New York;
- need to design Clergy Peer Group programs;
- clergy compensation issues;
- movement toward a financial system based upon proportional giving.

**Property Sub-Committee Report:**

It was reported that minor issues on the contract required further legal review. Revisions were completed to the satisfaction of each side, and the final resolution is eminent.

**Centennial Committee Report:**

Dr. John Schultz reviewed the written report (copy attached). Following final expenses, a profit of \$1,481.50 was garnered. It was decided to send a copy of the commemorative book to each parish community.

**Building and Grounds:**

No report given.

**Youth Committee:**

Report was filed. (Copy filed.)

**Pittsburgh FOCA:**

Mrs. Danielle Ilchuk provided a report on the Youth activities in connection with the Centennial Celebration.

**Parish Development Program:**

Mr. Kormos provided a written report (copy attached). Mr. Kormos reported on specific parish efforts held in the Canonsburg, Lyndora, Carnegie, New Kensington and Weirton parishes.

**Metropolitan Council:**

No meetings were scheduled.

**Light of Orthodoxy:**

Igumen Patrick announced the deadline date for the coming issue and appealed for content.

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**Old/Unfinished Business:**

- **Reed Street (former Saint Michael Cathedral) Property:** The final sale of this property to the AMRAPUR Group has not yet been realized. The Diocese has received payment of \$5,000.000 to extend the purchase agreement contract for another 90-day period.

**New Business:**

- **OCA Sexual Abuse Coordinator Position:** Father Chancellor discussed the need to hire a coordinator to oversee the implementation and maintenance of the OCA Sexual Abuse/Prevention policy within the Diocese. A written description of the scale of work was provided, with the Chancellor recommending Deacon Alexander Cadman due to his qualifications and noting that Deacon Alexander was one of two applicants. Priest Nikolai Breckenridge moved to accept the job description as attached to these minutes. Gregory Nescott moved to accept Deacon Alexander for the position. Seconded by Igumen Patrick (Carpenter). Approved by Council.

**Appointments:**

It was the desire of the Archbishop to appoint Mrs. Mary Ann Sivak to the position of third auditor. Council concurred.

**Future Meeting:** May 1, August 21, and November (Annual Assembly).

Motion to adjourn provided by Justin Nescott; seconded by Father Nikolai Breckenridge. Meeting adjourned at 8:11 PM with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Archpriest Michael Senyo, Secretary

Approved for distribution:

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Archbishop Melchisedek

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Archpriest William Evansky