

Diocese of Pittsburgh & Western Pennsylvania
Archdiocesan Council Meeting
August 22, 2017

A meeting of the Archdiocesan Council took place at the Archdiocesan Center (Cranberry Twp., PA) on August 22, 2017. Archbishop Melchisedek called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

The following were present: Archbishop Melchisedek, Chancellor Archpriest William Evansky, Archpriest Michael Senyo, Secretary; Archpriests Igumen Patrick (Carpenter), George Johnson, Gregory Petersen; Priest: Nikolai Breckenridge, Deacon: Seraphim Truckley. From the laity: Alexis Parshook, Treasurer; Justin Nescott, Rebecca Danchenko, Nicole Rogos, Dr. John Schultz, Roy Glisan and Serge Daniels.

Secretarial Report:

Minutes of the previous meeting were distributed electronically prior to this meeting. A clarification was presented regarding discussion of parish cemeteries. Father Chancellor will provide clarification from his notes for the next meeting.

Financial Report:

Presented by Alexis Parshook: A written report was distributed electronically prior to the meeting. A copy was filed. Ms. Parshook noted that \$49,608.00 is owed to the Archdiocese as back/overdue assessments (15 parishes). These parishes are: Belle Vernon, Crossingville, DuBois, Curtisville, Homestead, New Salem, Steubenville, Irvona, Madera, Monessen, Pine Hill, Wolf Run, Colver, Jeannette, Mingo Junction. Motion to accept Treasurer's Report: Fr. Gregory Petersen; Seconded by Igumen Patrick.

Correspondence:

A letter from Mother Christophora of Holy Transfiguration Monastery was received acknowledging a donation from the Archdiocese.

Report of the Ruling Bishop: (Copy filed.)

His Eminence:

- reported on parish vacancies:
 - Archpriest Andrei Alexiev will be assigned to Black Lick;
 - Hieromonk Constantine will be assigned to Monessen and West Brownsville;
 - A candidate is under consideration for the Donora vacancy;
- the Small Parish Conference in New Kensington was well represented by Archdiocesan communities;
- Dr. Christopher Veniamin led retreats for clergy and the laity.

Agenda-Amended Items:

- The Reed Street property sale closed at \$160,000. Funds were deposited into the checking account with plans to bring stability to the Archbishop Benjamin Scholarship fund.

- A written report was submitted by Mr. Roy Glisan concerning the Cranberry property. An escrow check for the amount of \$50,000 from the Singer Corporation was deposited. “Wetlands” and spring issues were being examined.

Archdiocesan Council Meeting

August 22, 2017

Page 2

Budget 2017 – 2018:

- Proposed funding policy was presented by Father Nikolai. This policy describes the movement from a dues/assessment model to one which is based upon a percentage system as related to parish income. Copy attached.
A great deal of discussion resulted in the following motion by Father George Johnson. Acknowledging that the consensus of the Council was favorably disposed to the proposed change from a dues/“head tax” system to a percentage-based formula, Archpriest George Johnson moved to table the initial proposal with the following revision: that the Committee review the percentages and graduation scale and that a “ceiling” and a “floor” be determined with regard to changes in parish assessments when compared to the year 2017.
Father George also moved to explore a potential transition period for implementation of the proposal in each parish.
Motions were seconded by Dr. John Schultz.
- The 2017 – 2018 Budget was proposed by Ms. Parshook. Copy attached. Igumen Patrick moved to accept. Seconded by Father Gregory Petersen.

Reports:

All other reports were accepted as presented. Motion to accept made by Igumen Patrick; seconded by Justin Nescott.

Archdiocesan Council Positions:

No elections are needed for the coming year. The position of Communications Director as a seat on the Council is now eliminated.

Archdiocesan Assembly:

The Assembly will be held on November 4, 2018, at Saint Gregory Church in Homestead.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Archpriest Michael Senyo, Secretary

Approved for distribution:

Archbishop Melchisedek

Archpriest William Evansky