

Meeting of the Archdiocesan Council - April 12, 2021 - Saint Alexander Nevsky Cathedral

This meeting of the council was held both in person and via ZOOM - the meeting was called to order by the Hierarch at 6:30 pm.

The following members were in attendance: Archbishop, Chancellor William Evansky, Archpriests: Michael Senyo, Thomas Soroka, Mark Meholick. Priests: Stephan Gresh, Andrew Nelko. From the laity: G Ohler, R Steeb, N York, G Sidorick

Secretary's Report: Minutes were distributed electronically. Copy filed. After review, no corrections or additions were needed.

Treasurer's Report: Report was distributed electronically. Alexis Parshook was excused. Father Chancellor reviewed the report and took questions regarding investment accounts, income yields, and account comparisons. The Diocese obtained a loan through the PPP program for \$21,900. Father Mark Meholick moved to accept the report. Second by Father Nikolai Breckenridge. R Steeb opposed. Motion passed.

Hierarch's Report: With the easing of pandemic restrictions, the archbishop has increased his travel schedule and visitations to parishes. A mission station is being established in Waynesburg, PA with services by deanery clergy. He is working toward establishing an OCF with the West Brownsville parish for California University of PA. Potential ordinations: Subdeacon Jonathan Skowron to the Diaconate; Protodeacon Alexander Cadman to the Priesthood. One Reader Evan (John) Kerstetter from Beavertown Holy Spirit Chapel is now engaged in the Late Vocations program. Father Thomas Soroka asked the Hierarch questions regarding pandemic statements, policies, photo optics, reporting, etc. in the OCA - there is anger, mistrust and a sense of lack of thought, realizing ineffective guidance for the clergy and the people. One diocese seems very heavy handed, another is relatively "free". In certain dioceses, the protocols vary from place to place. The Hierarch expressed that in our own Diocese, "a common sense" approach has been upheld, each parish and rector helping to determine the course of each. Other dioceses have not used this approach, and he understands such methods are hurting the Church. Clergy are invited to communicate their concerns and observations.

Chancellor's Report: Report distributed electronically. Copy filed. The Masontown parish has been closed and is up for sale. The Moundsville parish will soon be closed, then offered for sale.

Various Committees: Reports were submitted and distributed electronically. Of note: the metropolitan council members reported there is very little interest in the Syosset property sale.

Safety Policy: Protodeacon Alexander Cadman reported there have been technical difficulties with the Sterling Volunteers website. He will be available to assist any of the clergy who need help with registration.

Unfinished Business: Loans - Father Mark Meholick reported on the relocation of the DuBois parish to its new property. Progress continues with the Beaverton renovation/expansion. Investment Committee - a meeting needs convened to review investments and output. LPAP - Father Michael Senyo reported on the progress at the Jeannette parish and some of the difficulties encountered. Our pilot parish in the program will serve to reveal a “work in progress” according to Father Chancellor. Thus far, the work is profitable and inspiring. A full report/review will be provided to the council by Father Michael as the program reached the one-year mark.

New Business: Funding Policy - Father Chancellor reviewed the funding policy placed into effect in 2018. Due to the pandemic, a reasonable review of parish response to the policy could not be conducted for a true analysis. Implementation of a new plan would be difficult without proper analysis. Nicholas York moved to keep the current policy in place for the upcoming budget year. Second by R Steeb. Passed.

2021 Calendar: Assembly - June 26 / Diocesan Council - August 16 / Assembly - November 6

Being no further business, the meeting closed with prayer at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Archpriest Michael Senyo

Archdiocesan Council Secretary

Archbishop MELCHISEDEK

Archbishop of Pittsburgh and

Archdiocese of Western PA

Archpriest William J. Evansky

Archdiocesan Chancellor

Pittsburgh and Western PA

