

DIOCESAN REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE
CONFERENCE CALL
June 30, 2011

Conference Call Minutes

On the call:

- Bishop Tikhon
- Fr. David Mahaffey
- Fr. Martin Brown
- Fr. Michael Demko
- Fr. Timothy Hojniki
- Fr. Dcn. Gregory Moser
- Jamie Davis
- Mark Linnehan
- William Simpson
- Larry Skvir

Absent

- Paula Holoviak

I. Opening Prayer

His Grace, calling from his car, opened the meeting with *O Heavenly King*.

Prior to the start of the meeting his Grace asked for a volunteer to take minutes; Mark Linnehan volunteered.

II. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was sent out via email by Jamie at the beginning of the call. His Grace reviewed it with the group and there were no objections to using it for the meeting.

III. Comments by Bishop TIKHON

His Grace reviewed some of the accomplishments of the first meeting and reviewed the primary functions of the committee, which are:

- Identify causes for the decline in the spiritual health of many of the parishes in the diocese

- Suggest solutions or remedial actions which will help to improve the health of all parishes, not just those currently identified as having problems.

His Grace also drew the committee's attention to the Revitalization web page and discussion ensued concerning ways to make the web page's presence and content known to parishes throughout the Diocese.

Some of the suggestions were:

- Have a brief parish meeting in each parish at which the web page will be displayed and discussed
- Mention the web page in "Alive in Christ"
- Mention the web page in parish bulletins

IV. **Review and approval of minutes from the June 25 meeting**

MOTION: Fr. Martin – moved, Dn. Gregory – seconded

That the minutes be approved with minor corrections.

MOTION passed by unanimous vote.

V. **Website page**

His Grace asked for comments on the web page and discussion was held concerning it. Fr. Martin suggested that the names of the members be added and Jamie responded that they were already there.

MOTION: Fr. Tim – moved, Fr. Martin – seconded

That a tab be created to link from the main page of the Diocesan webpage to the Revitalization page.

MOTION passed by unanimous vote.

It was also recommended that a distribution list be created for any comments that come in for the Committee from the website. Jamie stated that she would talk to Cindy and Mat. Sandy to have this accomplished.

VI. Discussion and revision of draft statement

Discussion was held concerning the draft statement and it was agreed to change the phrase “to foster growth’ to “to foster *spiritual* growth,” in the first paragraph. In the third paragraph the phrase “bring to fruition the renewal of our diocese,” will be changed to read “bring to fruition the *revitalization* of our diocese .

MOTION: Jamie – moved, Mark – seconded

That the draft statement be accepted as revised.

MOTION passed by unanimous vote.

VII. Next steps

Several ideas were discussed as next steps forward. The following actions were determined:

- All members will review the Diocese of the Midwest document *Building Healthy, Hopeful, American Orthodox Parish Communities* which can be found at :
<http://www.midwestdiocese.org/files/Parish%20Health/Inventory%20Docs/FocusareaV1final.pdf>
- Fr. David will contact Joe Kormos to see if he would be willing to meet with us via conference call or in person to share his experiences in the Diocese of the Midwest
- Jamie will draft a mission statement for the committee. Other members were invited to do the same
- Prayer cards will be created for the faithful of the Diocese: Fr. Michael will draft a prayer and send it to His Grace for approval. This prayer will be used on the back of an icon card with an icon of St. Alexis. Fr. Martin and Jamie will

get quotes for printing the cards. Ideas for distribution will be discussed once the cards are created.

- His Grace will prepare a pastoral letter asking each parish to conduct a monthly Akathist service for St. Alexis as a means of encouraging our prayers for parish growth and revival.
- His Grace will ensure that Alive in Christ is used to disseminate information about the committee or church revitalization in general.
- Members were asked to look for additional resources and to bring them to the attention of the committee

VIII. Date of next meeting or conference call

Thursday July 7th at 7:30PM via conference call using the same number.

Dial In Number: 213-787-0529

Access Code: 5892568

If Jamie can set up a Free Conference call account before then she will send out an email notification.

IX. Closing Prayer

His Grace closed the meeting with *It is Truly Meet*