



Diocesan Council Meeting – December 4, 2018

Diocesan Chancery
325 N. Walnut St., Bath, PA 18014

Meeting Minutes

Opening Prayer at 10:00am with the singing of “O Heavenly King”

Present:

Administration: Archbishop Mark (*Hierarch*); Fr. Martin Browne (*Chancellor*); Joseph Tosca (*DC Treasurer*);

Frackville Deanery: Fr. Timothy Hojnicky (*Dean & MC clergy rep*);
Fr. Stephen Vernak (*DC Secretary*) Sandy Tosca;

Philadelphia Deanery: Fr. Victor Gorodenchuk (*Dean*); Pdn. Peter Skoog

Wilkes Barre Deanery: Pdn. Sergei Kapral;

Metropolitan Council: Susan Schlasta (*MC lay rep*)

At Large: Dn. John Shingara (*Diocesan at-large*);

Absent:

Fr. Michael Demko; Fr. Barnabas Fravel; Fr. John Onofrey; Fr. Nicholas Solak (*Dean*)

Guest:

Minutes of Previous Meeting, Sept 25, 2018

Motion to approve minutes as corrected:

Fr. Raymond Browne; *Second:* Pdn. Sergei Kapral. **Approved.**

Archbishop's Remarks

- *G&B Sheds*
 - Pad being prepared today
- *Chapel Iconostasis*
 - Iconographer from Alliance, OH
- *Christian Education Director (Vacancy)*
 - No updates

Review of Officer's Reports

a. Diocesan Chancellor

- Emailed prior to the meeting
- Fr. Timothy Hojnicky commented that there were positive reactions to the Advent Clergy retreat, our speaker (Bp. Athony) was excellent.

b. Treasurer (emailed prior to the mtg)

Budget vs. Actual Summary

(as of 12/02/18)

Parish Support

Actual: \$353,060.98

Total Income

Actual: \$350,731.96

Total Expenses

Actual: \$271,565.00

Net Operating Income

Actual: \$15,526.37

Account Balance Summary (as of 12/02/18)

<i>Peer Group Checking:</i>	\$ 21,924.08
<i>General Checking:</i>	\$ 241,087.11
<i><u>Protected Fund MM:</u></i>	<u>\$ 79,276.12</u>
TOTAL	\$ 342,287.31

Aging Summary

(report attached as of 11/30/18)

Total = **\$16,413.41** (91 and over = **\$1,005.15**)

Motion to approve treasurers' reports:

Pdn. Sergei Kapral; *Second:* Fr. Victor Gorodenchuk. **Approved.**

2019 Budget (Joe Tosca)

Documents emailed prior to the meeting

Budgeted Parish Support

- **2019: \$400,083.96**
- 2018: \$392,569.56

Budgeted Expense Needs

DIOCESAN BUDGET	(From emailed report)
\$414,084	Total Income
-\$162,265	2019 OCA Assessment
-\$2,000	2018 Extra OCA Assessment
-\$3,600	New car purchase reserve
\$246,219	Total Available for Diocesan Use
-\$223,448	Diocesan Budget Needs
\$22,771	Surplus / Deficit

Discussion p/line items:

- Line Item 1 (Bishop Salary)
 - Fr. Raymond, suggests a \$3,600 increase (7%)
 - This will affect other aspects of the salary budget
 - Fr. Stephen suggested that we prepare a path to bringing the bishops salary in line with the OCA Standards
 - Median Family Income Standard for Diocesan Hierarch going forward is "North Hampton County"

Motion to approve 7% salary increase for 2019 budget:

Fr. Victor Gorodenchuk; *Second*: Fr. Raymond Browne. **Approved.**

- Line Item 12 (Subdeacon)
 - Transfer \$3,000 to Bp. Travel (Line 6)
 - Keep \$2,500 in Subdeacon/Driver (Line 6)
- Discussion was held regarding non-operating assets (roughly \$170,000)

Lunch Break at 12:22pm
Return from Lunch Break at 12:58pm

- Lines 7 (Chancellor Salary) & 13 (Dean Travel Allowance): Fr. Raymond mentioned that the compensation needs to be addressed in the next budget
 - Chancellor & Deans to keep mileage, track for next year
 - Keep stipend at \$300 for this year
- Line 21 (Diocesan Alive in Christ): Discontinue Magazine, and make a quarterly newsletter that can be printed for those who need.

Motion to remove Diocesan Alive in Christ from 2019 budget:

Caveat: a quarterly newsletter should be produced.

Fr. Stephen; *Second*: Pdn. Sergei Kapral. **Approved.**

- Line 23 (Christian Education & Youth): Fr. Victor mentioned that we should work towards funding a part-time youth director, perhaps providing a part-time stipend to support a priest who is also serving at a rector in a “smaller parish”
- Line 31 (Missionary): Pdn. Peter Skoog suggested that we increase this particular line to \$25,400.
- Fr. Stephen suggested that we set aside \$1,500 p/year towards the AAC video
- Fr. Raymond suggested

Motion to approve 2019 budget as amended (surplus of \$3,531):

Fr. Stephen Vernak; *Second*: Pdn. Sergei Kapral. **Approved.**

Deaneries

a. Philadelphia – Fr. Victor Gorodenchuk

- TBD

b. Frackville – Fr. Timothy Hojnicky

- McAdoo would like to make an effort to continue. Fr. Timothy will be attending a monthly parish council meeting (steering committee).
- Rdr. Greg Sagan is training some members of the smaller parishes to have “readers services”
- Represented our Deanery at the funeral of Fr. Joseph Martin

c. Wilkes-Barre – Fr. Nicholas Solak (not present, Ab. Mark gave the report)

- Holy Trinity – Fr. Innocent Neal, rector
- Holy Resurrection – Fr. Timothy Cremeens retiring. A potential candidate has been identified.
- All Saints – Fr. Nicholas has been presiding at a Council Meeting, and some things are now moving forward. Fr. Stephen Kopestonsky is covering.
- St. Nicholas (Olyphant) – Fr. Vladimir is still unable to serve, hopes to come back at Christmas. Fr. Elias Krenitsky is covering.
- Ss. Peter & Paul – seminarian priest covering

Clergy Peer Groups

- Lily grant received by the OCA
- Will see how it works out this coming year
- \$8,000 has been allocated for Peer Learning in our 2019 Budget

Preparation for Diocesan Assembly (Ab. Mark)

- Hotel Reservations are due on 1/1/2019
- Recognition of M. Sandy
- Fr. Sergius is unable to be present at the Assembly, may send a representative.
- Invite Kopestonsky's, Shewczyks's and Kovalak's to Assembly
 - Diocesan Gramota's will be presented
- Rate: \$50 p/person
- Diocesan Council Openings/Nominations
 - Let Ab. Mark and Fr. Raymond know your intentions

Liturgical Life Committee (Fr. Victor Gorodenchuk)

- Service for the Mis-Carriage of a Child

Clergy Continuing Education (Fr. Raymond Browne)

- Fr. John Edward and Fr. Raymond are working on speakers, topics, and dates for the coming year
- Church Finance Meeting with M. Mary Buletza on **Sat, Dec 15 from 9am-1pm** in Bethlehem, PA

Communications (Aric Gingo)

- Will be emailed to everyone

Metropolitan Council (Fr. Timothy Hojnicky/Susan Schlasta)

- Change in OCA Administration.
 - Fr. Alexander Rentel, new Chancellor
 - Treasurer position now being advertised
 - Chancery Administrator (formerly Secretary) will be hired after the Chancellor is in place
- Youth Director – how do we sustain?
- 50th Anniversary of the Tomos and Canonization of St. Herman (2020)
 - Ab. Benjamin is chairperson for OCA
 - Each Diocese is asked to host an event
 - Each Diocese is asked to make pilgrimage to Alaska
 - Potential Cruise to Alaska
 - Synodal Liturgy at the National Cathedral (*Washington, DC*)
- Social Media Guidelines have been posted
- “Of What Life Do We Speak” study guide

Young Adults, Camp, Winter Camp

- Youth Directors resigned

- Winter Youth Retreat is **Fri, Feb 8 – Sat, Feb 9th** at Christ the Saviour (Harrisburg). Steven Christoforou of “Be the Bee” is the retreat leader.
 - Fee: \$50 p/family
- Ab. Mark presented an application process/forms for Summer Camp, etc.
 - Reference and Background Check

Motion to approve 2019 Assembly Agenda as agenda

Fr. Stephen Vernak; *Second*: Pdn. Sergei Kapral. **Approved.**

Old Business

M. Sandra Appreciation

- Monetary gift
- Handwritten Icon - TBD
- Acknowledgement at Diocesan Assembly in January

New Business

Hiring of Diocesan Financial Secretary

- M. Ashley is currently filling this position, and is willing to continue

Charity

Consideration of the following

\$500 each for Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) Real Break

- *Vladimer Kellachow*
- *Hannah Conover*

Motion to approve \$1,000 to OCF

Fr. Stephen Vernak; *Second*: Fr. Timothy Hojnicky. **Approved.**

Next Meeting:

TBD (*Bath, PA*)

Motion to adjourn at 3:02pm

Fr. Timothy Hojnicky. **Approved.**