

Diocesan Council Meeting of 10 December 2020

22 December 2020

Attendees:

Archbishop Mark	Fr. Seraphim Reynolds	Sebastian Crews
Fr. Martin Brown	Deacon John Shingara	Danalisa Radu
Fr. Victor Gorodenchuk	Deacon Peter Stoller	
Fr. Nicholas Solak	Russell Charonow	
Deacon Sergei Kapral	Mark Linnehan	

The meeting was called to order by Archbishop Mark and opened with the prayer “O Heavenly King...”

- Minutes for meetings held on 13 August, 3 September and 22 October were approved as written. A motion to accept the minutes was put forth by Fr. Martin Brown and seconded by Fr. Seraphim Reynolds. Motion was unanimously approved.

Archbishop Mark

- **Diocesan Assembly** – The Diocesan Assembly for the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania is scheduled to take place on 29 January 2021 via Zoom call. The Assembly will begin at 10:00 am.
 - Because the Diocesan Assembly will be a virtual event, Fr. Stephen Vernak has volunteered to assist with set up and installation of various bits of technology that will be required to run the assembly. This will be done in early January most likely after the Feast of Theophany.
- **Diocesan Center** – A new furnace was installed at the diocesan center following issues with the furnace that was in place at the time the center was purchased. The cost for installation of the new furnace along with removal of the old furnace was \$5,000. The new furnace is a high efficiency unit that should reduce heating costs for the diocesan center.
- The Parish currently located at St. Tikhon’s Monastery will be transferred from the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania to the monastery; a stavropegial institution. This will affect the diocesan budget and needs to be noted.

Diocesan Budget – Mark Linnehan, Diocesan Treasurer, presented detailed financial reports covering 2020 income and expenditures as well as a budget that will be presented at the 2021 Diocesan Assembly. Key take aways were:

- In spite of the COVID-19 pandemic, the diocese is meeting or bettering all budgetary goals even without the closing and sales of 3 churches. The Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania is on firm financial ground.
- Two diocesan parishes – Holy Trinity in Wilkes Barre, PA and St. Herman of Alaska in Gradyville, PA – are significantly behind in their financial obligations to the diocese. They will be contacted concerning their outstanding balances. Balances must be paid prior to the diocesan assembly if their representatives are to be seated at the assembly.
- **2021 Budget Discussions** –
 - Projected diocesan income for 2021 is expected to be \$400,000. This is down a bit from 2020 but reflects the closing of 3 churches and the transfer of the parish at St. Tikhon’s Monastery to the monastery proper.
 - Mission support will be investigated for the Russian mission in Philadelphia as well as support for a mission parish in Gettysburg, PA. Based on current available funds, one of both of these project would be doable in the coming year depending on viability of the mission.
- A motion was made to accept the budget was made by Fr. Martin and seconded by Sebastian Crews.
- **Diocesan Summer Camp** – Camp administrators / directors have submitted various requested report to the diocese but have not provided **any** financial information. It was requested that Archbishop Mark be added as a signator for all accounts associated with the camp. The lack of action and transparency on the part of the camp directors is contrary to an agreement made by the camp directors earlier this year. Fr. Martin Brown and Danalisa Radu are to contact the appropriate parties associated with the camp regarding financial accounts, records, etc. **Please Note:** 1) Archbishop Mark has been authorized to **remove** the current directors from all summer camp bank accounts. 2) Mark Linnehan is to be added as a signator to all camp accounts.
- **Diocesan Investments** – We will continue to do business with the current institutions where the diocese has money invested. We will look at other options. Mark Linnehan to report back prior to the Diocesan Assembly.

Action Items

- **Diocesan Investments** – We will continue to do business with the current institutions where the diocese has money invested. We will look at other options. Mark Linnehan to report back prior to the Diocesan Assembly.

Respectively Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Skoog". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Protodeacon Peter N. Skoog

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