

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

March 17, 2018

1. Opening Prayer (Oh, Heavenly King)
2. Previous Meeting Minutes Approved
3. Financial Reports (Karl):
 - a. February was a "red month" by +/- \$1,000.
 - b. YTD deficit due to Father John travel, plowing, utilities: natural gas and electricity.
 - c. ACH debit remains too unsubscribed to justify.
 - Q: Is \$1,900 gap between opening and closing balances due to lower than expected donations?
 - A: No, more a product of Father's travel expenses & the plowing.
 - Q: Is \$1,900 gap a problem?
 - A: Not really, the 2018 spending plan is lower than 2017; there is no reason to that giving won't keep pace; plus there is always the fallback of being able to borrow from ourselves as we have in the past.
 - Q: Is anonymous donation still coming in?
 - A: Yes, 2k/mo as of now.
 - Q: Has attendance risen?
 - A (Father John): Yes, +- 60 per Sunday to +- 75 per Sunday.
 - A (Karl): Though giving units remain about unchanged.
 - d. Motion to accept financial reports. Approved.
5. Fr. John's comments
 1. Things are "stable".
 1. Parish contribution to hosting Sunday of Orthodoxy was "just fantastic"; Clergy brotherhood gave high praise. Also, Father didn't have to take the lead in any aspect of planning or logistics.
 2. If the parish is to grow parishioners must take ownership of various activities, and this is happening, e.g. with the upcoming children's retreat, which is all to the good.
 2. **FOCUS** is coming to the Hampton Roads area
 1. Domestic equivalent of the IOCC
 2. Disaster relief, long-term ministry to the poor, service to ex-cons.
 3. Led locally by John Moxen of St Nicholas church, who will start the ministry small in

order to build trust: serving "food-insecure" children.

1. "backpack ministry": Food packages delivered especially for days when children aren't in school for meals.
2. Moxen to obtain lists of needy children from school resource officials, solicit funds from local Orthodox communities, corporate philanthropists, etc.
3. Church(es) will host packing parties.
4. Will be great for amping up local inter-Orthodox cooperation and for raising the local Orthodox profile.

Q: Will FOCUS connect with the area food bank?

A: No, not at first anyway, will need to scale up.

Q: Next steps beyond food program?

A: Will have to see – maybe ex-cons? Depends on the need.

3. Deanery & diocese: Father likely miss a Sunday at the end of July in connection with the All-American council; Father to drive and to roll a vacation into the trip.
4. Kiotes:
 1. First eight to be finished by Roy Martin and ready for installation at the beginning of Holy Week.
 2. Requires brackets to be reconed and mounted ASAP; Mark Mills volunteers to lead this.
5. Roy Martin is working on an altar design
6. Nothing received yet from Elizabeth Randall re: the iconostasis
7. Kris & Susanna have graciously furnished the sacristy.
8. Need: paper supply volunteer.
9. Need for Pascha: covering for the front door.
 1. Father suggests a roll of paper (sourced from Michaels?).
 2. Mark suggests a cloth (sourced from Walmart or a fabric supply store?) supported by magnets (sourced from Harbor Freight).
10. Palm Sunday palms have been ordered; Pascha lillies have been ordered.

6. Misc:

1. A parishioner has suggested that windows be installed in the south wall to improve the church's visual appeal.
 1. Explore design and cost.
2. New carpet runner for center of nave is required.
 1. Explore (Gonsenhauser?)
3. Kevin would like to see a more deliberate process for nominating folks to serve on parish council, etc. – e.g. a committee do nominate candidates.
 1. Father says this is fine but that he is always required to vet nominees for canonical standing.

7. The next council meeting is scheduled for Saturday April 21 at 4:30.

8. Close meeting: "It Is Truly Meet".