

# Parish Council Meeting Minutes

April 21, 2018

1. Opening Prayer (Christ is Risen)
2. Previous Meeting Minutes Approved
3. Financial Reports (Karl):
  1. March continues trend of running in the red (about 2.6k YTD).
  2. Anonymous gift (2k/mo) continues, keeping cash flow close to break even.
  3. Natural gas is high now but will likely net for the year on target due to heating costs diminishing for most of the rest of the calendar year.
  4. Karl has begun including on the monthly report an inset box breaking out our debt and deposits held by the diocese.
  5. Karl explained the difference between our mortgage debt, which is paid to the bank for us by the diocese, and our debt owned by the diocese itself.
  6. Motion to accept financial reports. Approved.
5. Fr. John's comments
  1. Upcoming after Wednesday Vespers on April 25 and for a number of weeks thereafter, Father John will lead a children's catechesis built around the Ten Commandments.
  2. Elizabeth Randall's icon project for us has been delayed by health and other issues.
  3. Any interest in participating in a commemorative volume tied to the upcoming All-American Council?
    1. No.
6. New Business
  1. 100k donation received late last month from our anonymous donor.
    1. Parish is required to tithe 10% of these monies, leaving 90k for the parish.
  2. Parish council agreed to establish principles/guidelines for allocating monies above the diocesan tithe and operating expenses.
    1. The council was in consensus that paying down our debt is the top parish priority.
    2. Father John is also eager for the parish to give aggressively as we are able, and the council, by consensus, agreed.
    3. After much discussion re: the 100k gift (90k after tithe) the parish council agreed to the following allocation, which in turn reflects the council's vision for the parish for

now and for the immediate future:

1. 50k to nearly eliminate parish debt to the diocese.
  1. 10k tithe + 50k one-time debt payment = 60k (of 63.7k).
  2. This leaves 3.7k remaining debt. (Karl is confident we can pay this off before the end of the year.)
  3. This will also eliminate our 2k/mo managed debt payment, bringing us closer to monthly operating solvency.
  4. This will also contribute to the liquidity of the diocese which showed a substantial loss during 2017.
  5. Motion to approve this payment was approved by the council.
  
2. The 40k balance required a further discussion and clarification of goals, leading to the following allocations which can also serve as a guide for future monies received over our operating needs:
  1. 20k for **parish needs**
    1. e.g. wood and materials for an iconostasis and an altar; a matching fund for icons
  2. 10k for **parish programs**
    1. e.g. education and outreach via sponsoring guest speakers, visiting choirs, etc.
  3. 10k for **philanthropy**
    1. e.g. the Hampton Roads efforts of **FOCUS North America**
  4. Motion to approve these allocation principles was approved.
  5. No specific monies were allocated.

*Summary of 100k allocation:*

1. 10k obligatory tithe
  2. 50k diocesan debt
  3. 40k monies above tithe, debt & operating needs:
    1. 20k (50%) parish needs
    2. 10k (25%) parish programs
    3. 10k (25%) philanthropy
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3. Bake sale: May 19
    1. Father John: Bounce house was very helpful during the last bake sale in entertaining children and thereby helping parent participation in the bake sale.
      1. Father recommended paying for the bounce house out of church school funds.

4. Church school

1. Anastasia noted that this is the parish's first year of near-continuous church school
2. Recommends that we honor the children after Divine Liturgy on 6/3, tied to the end of the church school year.

5. Dormition picnic

1. Planned for the Saturday after the parish feast day on Wed 8/15.
2. Will also be an opportune time to celebrate the parish's 40th anniversary.
3. Anastasia recommends a 41st anniversary celebration next year to include if possible the bishop and tied in part to the installation of our new icons and iconostasis.

6. Pascha candles

1. Council agreed to allow the children to continue to own the sale of the candles.
2. Council approved raising the cost of the candles to \$5 and to allow profits to go to the church school fund.

7. The next council meeting is scheduled for during the bake sale on Saturday May 19 at 10:00.

8. Close meeting: "The angel cried".