

Dormition of the Theotokos Orthodox Church

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

May 19, 2019

The meeting was opened with a prayer offered by Fr. John Cox at 11:57AM. In attendance in addition to Father: Karl Rusnak, Jack Damon, Diane Blischak.

The minutes of the March meeting were reviewed. Jack Damon proposed amending the minutes on the topic of e-giving to include the fact that other channels of giving, such as PayPal and Apple Pay, were also discussed. Jack moved and Karl seconded to accept the minutes with that amendment. Motion carried.

Karl Rusnak presented the Treasurer's report. He noted that cash flow is good but income is lagging expenses by approximately \$1000 per month. We are meeting our obligations to the diocese. There were a few large disbursements over the past month, including the purchase of a new tool for Roy Martin to use for his woodworking projects, and expenses incurred by Natalie Bradford for the landscaping beautification project. A motion was made by Jack Damon with second by Diane Blischak to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Father John presented his Pastoral Report. (1) An after-action document has been created and posted on the parish website to make note of Pascha events and times in order to evaluate and make changes if needed. Similar reports will be created for other feasts and events for the same purpose. (2) The Bishop will be visiting in August for the Feast of the Dormition. Father John will obtain the altar consecration kit. (3) The icons of the Saints of North America are 60% complete. No plan has yet been formulated for their installation. (4) The current catechumen class will continue until mid June. It is estimated that 10 – 15 individuals will be brought into the catechumenate on Pentecost or on the Feast of the Dormition. (5) Father John will attend the diocesan assembly in July and will be in charge of the youth programs at that event. (6) The August calendar will include Vacation Bible School at St. Nicholas Virginia Beach and as noted above, a visit from the Bishop. There will be many deanery members in attendance. Father John will handle all liturgical needs for the visit; the Hospitality Committee will need to plan for greeting the Bishop and hosting a post-liturgy reception. (7) The local clergy brotherhood will suspend meetings for the summer months. (8) No noteworthy news from the deanery or diocese. (9) Father John will attend continuing education in June at St. Tikhon's. The amount of \$200 was included in the budget for this year to cover related expenses.

The Safety Plan Father John had previously forwarded via email was discussed. Jordan Geraci was asked and has accepted appointment to chair the effort to customize the plan for our needs.

A new iconostas drawing was approved by Father John and Roy Martin. The drawing was consistent with designs as had been discussed.

A parishioner suggested holding a fellowship event in late October with the theme of Oktoberfest or Fall Harvest Festival. It was noted that the Bake Sale is scheduled for October 19. The Hospitality Committee will be asked to host the Fall Harvest Festival sometime after the Bake Sale.

Father John is considering changing the format of the fall book study to a movie club.

Further discussion was held regarding e-giving. Karl noted that Navy Federal does not offer direct transfers via ACH as we had hoped. The church already has a PayPal account, so it was agreed that we begin the process of raising awareness of that option for electronic tithing and other contributions.

Father has moved recordings of his sermons to Sermon.net. The cost is \$5 per month.

Diane accepted the task of researching options for color printing and streamlining other office and clerical tasks.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Saturday, June 22, 2019 at 4:00pm.

The meeting was closed with prayer offered by Father John at 1:14pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Blischak
Acting Secretary