

ARCHDIOCESE OF CANADA

ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL MEETING IN WINNIPEG, MB

OCTOBER 27 -28 2016
THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING

8:30AM Thursday

Breakfast

9:00 AM

Moleben

9:30 AM

1. Prayer and Blessing

Meeting called to Order

1. 1 Roll Call

His Eminence Archbishop Irénée (Rochon).

Chancellor Fr. Anatoliy Melnyk.

Treasurer Reuben Penner representing Fr. Justin Mitchell.

Archdiocesan Secretary Anna Miller

Dean of Ontario Fr. Geoffrey Korz

Dean of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Nunavut Fr. Gregory Scratch.

Dean of Alberta and The Northwest Territories Fr. Phillip Eriksson.

Dean of British Columbia and The Yukon Fr. Michael Fourik.

Clergy Member at Large Fr. Andrew Applegate.

Lay Delegate for Que. and Atl. Prov. and Interim Lay and

Lay Delegate to the Metropolitan Council Dn. Nicolas Svetlovsky.

Lay Delegate for Ontario Dn. Mark Josefson.

Lay Delegate for Alberta and The Northwest Territories Barbara North.

Absent

Treasurer Fr. Justin Mitchell with regrets.

Dean of Que. and Atl. Prov. Fr. Gregory Nimijean with regrets.

Lay Delegate for Manitoba and Saskatchewan Gregory Rychlo with regrets.

Lay Delegate at Large John Hadjinicolaou with regrets.

1. 2 Appointment of Co-Chair and Recording Secretary

Co-Chair Fr. Phillip Eriksson. Approved

Recording Sec. Dn. Nicolas Svetlovsky. Approved

2 Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Approved without correction.

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

The Agenda was approved with the following modifications;

- Item 3 and 4 were switched.
- Item 5 was removed.
- Item 8.1, 8.2 and 8.13 were moved to Friday morning
- Item 10.1 Charities.
- Item 11.6 Bursaries.
- Item 11.7 Healing Earth Report.
- Item 11.8 Clergy Synaxis.

Motion to accept the revised Agenda, Barbara North
 Seconded by Fr. Michael Fourik

Accepted

4. **Action Items**

- 4.1 Council appoints Dn. Nicolas Svetlovsky to check on the progress of Action Items, 2-3 months before the next scheduled Council meeting.
- 4.2 Council decides to put the Theological Education Committee into a dormant state until it is needed, at which time it will appoint the necessary Committee members. Council will oversee the current Institutes in the Archdiocese, to that effect Dn. Nicolas will email the Institutes asking for a yearly report to be submitted for the fall Council sessions.
- 4.3 Fr. Phillip will ask Fr. Matthew Francis as Chairman of the Christian Education and Youth Committee to define the parameters of the committee, preparing a report for the next Council meeting.
- 4.4 Dn. Mark Josefson accepts to be the Chairman of the Communications Committee. Dn. Mark is asked by the Council to look into reviving the Canadian Orthodox Messenger and making it available on the Archdiocesan Website. Fr. Andrey Syrkin will be asked to work on the Russian version.
- 4.5 Council creates an Archdiocesan By-Law Committee to prepare new Archdiocesan By-Laws that are in compliance with the new OCA Statutes and Federal Corporate Laws. Council appoints Fr. Justin Mitchell, Reuben Penner, Fr. Phillip Eriksson, and Matthew Estabrooks, members of the Committee who will prepare a report for the 2017 Assembly.
- 4.6 Spencerville property will be discussed and decided on in Agenda item 9.5
- 4.7 Search Ongoing. The Council will ask Fr. Rodion to compile a list of Liturgical items in older Parishes that are near closing in his area.
- 4.8 Vicar Bishop appointment on hold for now.
- 4.9 St. Arseny Institute to email Financial Report to Secretary Ongoing
- 4.10 Fr. Phillip to draft letter for Deans concerning the strict Insurance Coverage Requirements for parishes.
- 4.11 The Canadian Orthodox Heritage Committee is no longer required.

- 4.12 Deans to work with parishes on the 10% Archdiocesan Tithe Ongoing
- 4.13 Dn. Mark Josefson accepts appointment to the Council as Ontario Lay Delegate and is welcomed by the Bishop and Council members.
- 4.14 Letter from Chancellor to all Missions and Mission stations to determine their needs. Ongoing
- 4.15 Council asks Dn. Nicolas to write open letter to parish clergy who wish to support Middle east refugees in Canada. The letter is to include an Application form.
- 4.16 Plans for 2017 Assembly and Synaxis will be discussed after Barbara North's report Agenda Item 9.1
- 4.17 Review of new By-laws will be done in the next Council meeting.

5. **C.C.C. Report**

CCC did not submit a report. Council decides that one yearly CCC report be submitted every spring Council meeting. Accepted

6. **Addresses and Reports**

- 6.1 Archbishop Irénée
- 6.2 Chancellor Fr. Anatoliy Melnyk
Before summarizing his report Fr. Anatoly asks the Council to sing Вечная Память, in memory of Fr. Alexander Pihach.
- 6.3 Treasurer Report submitted by Reuben Penner
Recommendations;
 - 1 Fr. Phillip will write a letter specifying the Insurance Coverage requirements for parishes which the Deans will send out and follow up on, to insure that all comply. Ongoing
 - 2 Dn. Nicolas will notify the programing partners that CRA rules require them to yearly Financial reports to the Archdiocese. Reuben and Fr. Justin will send a list questions concerning the CRA requirements for our Programing Partners to Barbara North who will get information from the CC of Christian Charities Reuben will contact contact Fr. John or Fr. Matthew about the Yukon Mission's CRA charity status.
 - 3 The waiving of the 2016 Audit because of financial constraints.
Motion to replace 2016 Audit with an online review by Reuben Penner and German Ovodov. Motioned by Reuben, Seconded by Anna Miller. Accepted
 - 4 The creation of a mortgage pay-off fund to pay down the mortgaged Archdiocesan property in 4 years instead of 7 years. Council allocates

\$1000 monthly starting retroactively Jan 1st, 2016 to the Mortgage Fund.

Motioned by Reuben Seconded by Barbara North. Accepted

5 Council agrees to cover Spencerville expenses after it is vacant.

6.4 Secretary Report. Anna Miller

6.5 Audit Committee Report

7. **Deanery Reports.**

7.1 Quebec and Atlantic Provinces.

7.2 Ontario. Fr. Geoffrey Korz

7.3 Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Fr. Gregory Scratch.

7.4 Alberta and Northwest Territories Fr. Phillip Eriksson.

7.5 British Columbia and The Yukon Fr. Michael Fourik

1:00 PM Lunch

2:00 PM Meeting resumes

8. **Archdiocesan Committees and Institutions Reports**

8.1 Moved to Friday 9:00

8.2 Moved to Friday following 8.1

8.3 Theological Education Committee is dormant until it is needed.

8.4 Group Insurance Plan. Fr. Phillip has been unable to ascertain the exact amount of the increases to the coverage, but has been assured that the new coverage is retroactive to June 1st of this year. The Pension Plan which had been discussed in Calgary last year needs further investigation.

8.5 Christian Education and Youth Committee. Dealt with in Action Item: 4.3

8.6 Dn. Mark accepts Communications Committee Chair and will develop an overall strategy for the articles on our website, as well as an Online version of the Orthodox Messenger.

8.7 Fund-Raising Committee and STAS. Fundraising is down \$500 a month this year. Fr. Andrew will prepare a new STAS brochure listing the various Archdiocesan programs that are funded by STAS donations. Suggested ideas for helping lower income priests;

Subsidizing Health Care Coverage

Subsidizing travel costs to the Archdiocesan Assembly

Subsidizing salaries

STAS will allocate \$24,000 for the coming year to be used to help priests in Missions and Mission Stations.

Motioned by Fr. Geoffrey, Seconded by Anna Miller Accepted

8.8 Human Resources Committee. Barbara North summarizes her Lay Delegate

Report, which outlines the plans for the 2017 Assembly in Edmonton.
The Council decides to advance \$12,500 to the Assembly Committee to cover the cost of the Assembly.

Motioned by Barbara North Seconded by Anna Miller Accepted

6:00PM Dinner

6:30PM Meeting resumes

- 8.9 Missions and Mission Development. Fr. Matthew Francis will prepare a report for the next council meeting
- 8.10 AVAC. Schedule 2 on this Saturday 1 Sunday Committee members to be appointed by the Bishop.
- 8.11 Metropolitan Council Report. Dn. Nicolas
- 8.12 Property Management Report. Gregory Rychlo, Fr. Gregory Scratch reads the report in Gregory Rychlo's absence. The Bishop and the Council members express their gratitude for the excellent work done by Reader Gregory and ask Dn. Nicolas to send an email thanking Reader Gregory for his work.
As further work on the Property Title searches will require someone with professional qualification Fr. Phillip will speak to Reader Gregory suggesting that he contact a university with the goal of finding a graduate student who could include our title search as part of his research.
- *8.13 St. Arseny Report postponed till Friday morning after 8.1 and 8.2
- 8.14 Webmaster postponed till Friday after 8.13. Dn. Mark and Fr. Geoffrey Ready will work on a proposal for a new Website in time for tomorrow.

8:00 PM Thursday Meeting ends

9:00 PM Friday Meeting Resumes

- 8.1 Legal Committee Matthew Estabrooks advises the Council on the corporate status of the Archdiocese. The Archdiocese filed for a continuance under Federal jurisdiction of the The Canadian Orthodox Church registered in B.C in 1986 under the old corporate act.
- 8.2 The Archdiocesan By-Laws need to be rewritten to comply with the new Corp. act and the OCA Statues. Matthew Estabrooks suggests that the Council hire Carole Chouinard a legal expert familiar with nonprofit incorporation. The Bishop Fr. Justin and Fr. Phillip will draw up new Archdiocesan By-Laws, checking with Carole that they are in compliance with federal law. The Council allocates \$5000, in the Budget proposal, for legal fees. Fr. Phillip will contact the Anglican church for information concerning the nature of Church Corp. structure.
- 8.14 Website. Dn. Mark and Fr. Geoffrey Ready propose a budget of \$5000 for

revamping the website in the model of the OCA site. The Council approves and adds \$2000 per year for running costs.

*N.B. Item 8.13 i.e. St. Arseny Institute Report is postponed till after 9.1 below.

9. Proposals

9 2017 Budget Proposal Reuben Penner reviews the budget proposal.

The Council approves the following amendments to the Budget.

- 1 \$5000 per year for legal fees.
- 2 \$1000 for the Christian Education and Youth Committee
- 3 \$1000/monthly retroactive to Jan. 1st 2016 set aside for Mortgage closure.
- 4 \$5000 for website reconstruction.
- 5 \$2000 per year starting next year, for website administration.
- 6 3% salary increase for the Bishop.
- 7 2% salary increase for the Secretary
- 8 \$24,000 for helping Mission Priests.
- 9 \$12,500 for Assembly costs

Council moves to vote on the 2017 Budget Proposal.

Motioned by Reuben Seconded by Fr. Andrew Accepted

*8.13 St. Arseny Institute Report Fr. Anthony Estabrooks

St. Arseny needs reorganization, new people must be found to replace those who are in the process of retiring. Some progress has been achieved with Online courses, Fr. Anthony appeals to the Council to find new teachers for the Institute. The Bishop and Council members thank Fr. Anthony and the Institute Administration for their invaluable work over years. The Council agrees to be involved in the renewal process of the Institute. Fr. Gregory asks the Institute to prepare a one hour module for the Clergy Synaxis before the Assembly.

9.1 2017 Canadian Assembly. Covered in 8.8

9.2 Support of Mission Parishes.

Council approved \$24,000 to help Mission Priests

9.3 OCA Archdiocese of Canada Website updates. Covered in item 8.14

9.4 Parish Websites.

Dn. Nicolas brought the Council's attention to a Website created by A.Ovodov which is pretending to be the official Archdiocesan website and is posting false information. This website has a link to it on the Holy Resurrection Russian Orthodox Sobor in Vancouver B.C. The parish website domain is owned by Mr. A. Ovodov and he refuses to remove the link. The Council decides that all Archdiocesan parishes must own their respective websites, so the Priest can oversee the website content. Fr. Gregory will call Mr. Ovodov and try to reason with him, if Mr. Ovodov does not comply the Council will seek legal action.

Motioned by Fr. Gregory Seconded by Fr. Andrew Accepted

9.4 Cont'd. The Bishop and Council will write a letter to all parishes to inform them that their website domain must be owned by the parish.

Motioned by Reuben Seconded by Dn. Mark. Accepted

9.5 Spencerville Property Fr. Anatoly

Once the premises are vacated, an agent will be engaged to determine the sale price and the property will be sold.

Motioned by Fr. Anatoly Seconded by Reuben Accepted

9.5.5 Rueben asks the Council to consider what should be done with the Lebreton property because of the cost of keeping it. Council decided to keep the property

9.6 All Saint of Alaska B.C. Fr. Michael Fourik

The Bishop informs the Council that the parish council of All Saints of Alaska no longer has the funds to pay the priest's salary. Fr. Lawrence has decided to retire. The Council recommends that a new priest be found to serve the parish. The Bishop, Fr. Michael, and Fr. Phillip will look for a new priest.

10. **Discussions on Proposals and Resolutions**

10.1 Archdiocesan Charities Fund

The Council decides to donate \$10,000 to NASHI in memory of Fr. Alexander Pihach.

Motioned by Fr. Phillip Seconded by Barbara North. Accepted

11. **New Business**

11.1 Create a Mortgage pay-off fund

allocating \$1000 per month (retroactive to Jan. 1, 2016) Done

11.2 Partially or fully funding the pension plan - only for clergy whose parishes are contributing the 10% tithe

11.3 Partial or full funding of new priests starting new missions.

\$24,000 will be used to support Mission Priests to be decided by the Bishop in consultation with the Deans.

11.4 Partially or fully funding an Auxiliary Bishop. On Hold

11.5 Salaries Done

11.6 Bursaries Barbara North

Council recommends Fr. Richard Rene be given a \$1000 bursary pending approval of his application.

11.7 Healing Earth Conference Fr. Andrew submits a report on the conference held at his parish. Asked the Council to think about issuing a formal statement concerning the Standing Rock protest. Fr. Geoffrey Korz will write a statement to be considered next meeting.

11.8 Fr. Michael ask the Council to recommend that the minutes of the meeting be submitted no later than a month after the meeting. Accepted

11.9 Next ADOC meeting March 24-25 2017 Toronto. Accepted

11.10 Motion to Adjourn the Meeting Dn. Nicolas Seconded Fr. Phillip Accepted

3:00PM Meeting ends with prayer and blessing of the Bishop.

Action Items;

1. Fr. Dn. Nicolas Svetlovsky will check on the progress of the Action Items 2-3 months before the next meeting.
2. Fr. Phillip Eriksson will ask the Chairman of the Christian Education and Youth Committee, Fr. Matthew Francis, to prepare a report outlining the parameters of the committee for the next Council meeting.
3. Fr. Geoffrey Ready and Fr. Dn Mark Josefson will begin work on the new website.
4. Fr. Dn. Nicolas Svetlovsky will ask Fr. Andrei Syrkin about a Russian part of the website.
5. The Archdiocesan By-Laws Committee (Fr Phillip Eriksson, Fr. Justin Mitchell, Matthew Estabrooks, and Reuben Penner) will prepare a report for the 2017 Assembly.
6. The Spencerville Committee (Fr. Anatoliy Melnyk, Fr. Justin Mitchell and John Hadjinicolaou) will put the property up for sale.
7. Fr. Gregory Scratch will ask Fr. Rodion Luciuk to compile a list of Liturgical Items of parishes in rural Manitoba that are near closing down.
8. Fr. Justin Mitchell and Reuben Penner will define the parameters of the special funds.
9. St. Arseny Institute will submit a Financial Report before the end of this year (2016)
10. Fr. Phillip Eriksson will send an email to the Deans outlining the Insurance Coverage Requirements that all Parishes must have, and ask for compliance. The Deans will send out this notice of compliance to their respective Parishes.
11. Barbara North will submit a list of questions concerning Programing Partnerships to the Canadian Council of Christian Charities for information.
12. Reuben Penner will contact Fr. John Gryba to determine the charitable status of his Yukon Parish.
13. Reuben Penner and German Ovodov will prepare an Audit Review of 2016
14. Fr. Phillip Eriksson will email clergy the new coverage of the Health Plan.
15. Fr. Phillip will report on the Pension Plan Proposal in the next Council meeting.
16. The Bishop will report on the allocation of the money to help Mission Priests in the next Council meeting.
17. Fr. Phillip Eriksson will ask Gregory Rychlo to contact Universities about Property title searches.
18. Fr. Phillip Eriksson will contact the Anglican Church to inquire about costs associated with Incorporation.
19. Fr. Andrew Applegate will prepare a new STAS brochure for the next Council meeting.

20. The Legal Committee will hire Carole Chouinard to work on the new Incorporation of the Archdiocese.
21. St. Arseny will prepare a one hour module for the Clergy Synaxis.
22. Fr. Gregory Scratch will speak to Mr. Ovodov asking him to remove the Link to his website on the Vancouver Sobor website.
23. Anna Miller will look into Legal Action if Mr. Ovodov does not comply.
24. The Bishop and The Archdiocesan Council will send an email to all Parishes that Parish Website Domains must belong to the Parish, so that the Priest can oversee the website content.
25. The Council will donate \$10,000 from the Charities Fund to NASHI in memory of Fr. Alexander Pihach.

