

ARCHDIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH AND WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA
ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
11 APRIL 2011

A meeting of the Archdiocesan Council took place at the Cranberry Twp. center on April 11, 2011. His Grace, Bishop Melchisedek called the meeting to order with prayer at 6:30 PM.

The following members of the Archdiocesan Council were present for the meeting in addition to the hierarch: Archpriests/Priests P. Ziatyk (*Chancellor*), Igumen Patrick (Carpenter), W. Evansky (*Secretary*), D. Hendershot (*Treasurer*), G. Johnson, J. Kopcha, M. Meholick, M. Senyo, J. Wargo, G. Yatsko; Sbdcn. John Schultz; Mesdames Rebecca Danchenko and Lynda Nester; Messrs. G. Avdakov, S. Daniels, G. Nescott, G. Sidorick, N. Sidorick.

1. The meeting minutes from February 10, 2011, having been previously emailed, were *approved unanimously* after a *motion* was made by S. Daniels/ Fr. J. Kopcha.
2. His Grace briefly updated the council concerning his appointment by the Holy Synod as Interim Chancellor of the OCA since this body met on February 10, 2011. He asked any council member to speak with him privately concerning further questions about this situation currently in a state of flux. He acknowledged that his local plans have been put “on hold” due to his weekday trips to Syosset and that he hopes these plans can be revisited shortly after the celebration of the Holy Pascha.
3. Fr. Ziatyk mentioned in his report that: 1) the contract concerning the mineral rights to the property in Texas has been executed; the \$20,300.00 payment for the three year contract has been received; future royalties remain to be determined. 2) The chancellor was pleased with the success of the recent Lenten Retreat held at the Lyndora parish---the attendance was very strong and the presentation made Fr. Demetrios Carellas was excellent and well received. 3) Fr. Ziatyk then updated the status of the special appeal made to support Fr. Michael Meholick and his family in light of his ongoing medical issues---well over \$9,000.00 was raised from within the Archdiocesan boundaries. Additionally, \$3,500.00 was released to support Fr. Meholick by the OCA Charity Board. A primary purpose for these donations will be to continue the health insurance coverage initiated in the plan chaired by Fr. Patrick (Carpenter).
4. Fr. Senyo reported on behalf of the ad hoc investment committee that First National Bank (Duncan Manor branch) can offer a 5% return on a one million investment using various mixed investment instruments. Re-investment would yield 2-3% in the future. Council members asked various questions following this update. Based on a suggestion by Dr. John Schultz, the committee will also discuss possible investments with the firm currently engaged quite successfully by St. Tikhon’s Seminary Board of Trustees. Discussion will continue at the upcoming June council meeting.
5. The special committee charged with investigating the current incorporation status of the Archdiocese had no further information at this time. The committee hopes to have information by the June meeting.
6. Fr. Patrick (Carpenter) reported that the food pantry located at the Southside (Pittsburgh) parish continues to be quite successful---over 3,000 people (1,000 family units) have been served thus far.
7. St. Michael (Reed St.) property---status quo since the last meeting. The lawn sign approved at the last council meeting has not been erected as per request of the FOCUS Pittsburgh leadership. Fr. Patrick (Carpenter) reported that he is engaged in an ongoing dialogue with officials of the City of Pittsburgh concerning the property’s status---there are no immediate concerns requiring action on our part.

8. After a lengthy discussion, a *motion* was made (Frs. G. Johnson/ M. Senyo) that the council authorize His Grace to engage civil counsel to review the legal implications for the Archdiocese concerning the question of liability due to the diocesan hierarch's appointment as Interim OCA Chancellor by the Holy Synod. (*Approved with one member abstaining*)
9. Fr. Hendershot distributed a written treasurer's report for January-March 2011. A question was raised about the \$5,000.00 in taxes and cost of the sign at the St. Michael's property. He will set up a separate ledger using the \$40,000.00 in funds transferred to the Archdiocese previously from the Reed Street church's accounts. The treasurer also noted that funds needed for the coming year for projects at the diocesan center should be part of the equation when considering investments to make sure money is available as needed. Other comments/questions were discussed relevant to finances.
10. Volunteers were solicited to serve on a property committee to ascertain the needed future projects at the center and to recommend prioritization of those needs. In addition to His Grace, Frs. Ziatyk, Senyo, and Evansky will participate. Additionally, assistance will be solicited from Mr. Wayne Truckley (Lyndora parish) as well as qualified individuals from the Allison Park cathedral.
11. The final topic of the evening was the status of the hierarch's medical plan. Dr. John Schultz distributed information for the council to review prior to the June meeting so that a discussion can ensue at that time. (*Secretarial note: council members are reminded to please bring this information to the June meeting.*)
12. A *motion* to adjourn was made (Fr. M. Senyo/ L. Nester) at 8:06 PM after which the meeting was closed with prayer.

~ Next meeting: Tuesday, June 14, 2011 (6:30 PM) ~
--

Respectfully submitted in Christ,

//signed//

Very Rev. William J. Evansky
Archdiocesan Secretary

Approved:

//signed//

The Rt. Rev. Melchisedek
Bishop of Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania

//signed//

Very Rev. Paul R. Ziatyk
Archdiocesan Chancellor