

ARCHDIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH AND WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA
ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
16 SEPTEMBER 2010
REGISTER NO.

A meeting of the Archdiocesan Council took place at the Cranberry Twp. Archdiocesan Center on September 16, 2010. His Grace Bishop MELCHISEDEK called the meeting to order with prayer at 6:38 PM.

In addition to Bishop MELCHISEDEK, the following members of the Archdiocesan Council were present: Archpriests/Priests P. Ziatyk (Chancellor), Igumen Patrick (Carpenter), W. Evansky (Secretary), D. Hendershot (Treasurer), G. Johnson, M. Senyo, J. Wargo, G. Yatsko, M. Zahirsky; Messrs. G. Avdakov, S. Daniels; E. Markoff, G. Nescott; J. Schultz, G. Sidorick, R. Skvir.

1. A *motion* was made {G. Nescott/ G. Avdakov} to accept the minutes of the June 22, 2010, meeting with the addition of a secretarial note concerning (item #6 - new business.) (*Motion passed unanimously*)

2. Fr. Ziatyk updated the council concerning various projects at the Cranberry property - two new furnaces and two air conditioning units were installed along with the duct work cleaned. The chancellor reminded everyone that 80% of the furnace/air-conditioning project (costing approximately \$10,000) was donated by a faithful family of the Archdiocese. Fr. Ziatyk also reported that the driveway resurfacing project is completed. In response to Fr. Ziatyk's request, Ron Skvir then distributed a hand-out explaining the changes that resulted in an unanticipated cost overage that became necessary to successfully complete the repairs at the pavilion. He noted that the only incomplete part of the project is the permanent placing of the mosaic icon in the pavilion; this will be done as per instructions of the hierarch. He also answered questions concerning compliance with the A.D.A. - a follow-up will be attempted with the contractor concerning this. The council *agreed by consensus* that the contractor will be authorized to annually winterize the pavilion at a minimal cost.

3. The vast majority of the meeting time was then spent listening to Fr. Hendershot review the expenses of the Archdiocese and present the proposed budget as submitted by the Budget Committee. Written budget copies were distributed as well. After reviewing each budget category in depth, a *motion* was made (G. Nescott/ E. Markoff) to accept the budget as amended during the council discussion. (*Motion passed with two negative votes.*)

4. His Grace informed the council that the annual Archdiocesan Assembly will take place on November 6, 2010, at the St. Michael Parish (Portage, PA). Also in attendance will be representatives from the OCA to make a presentation concerning the recently released OCA strategic plan draft. It was suggested by a council member that a copy of this plan be included in the mailing sent to each parish for the upcoming November 6 meeting. The bishop also reminded everyone that the 2010-2011 parish census figures are now due. Finally, he reported that he has a name of someone who can perform the previously approved external audit of the Archdiocese but has not contacted that person yet.

5. A discussion then took place about a possible diocesan strategic plan in conjunction with the OCA strategic plan. The bishop briefly shared his vision as now being developed after his extensive visitation schedule in the Archdiocese since assuming his episcopacy some 15 months ago. A top priority will be developing a stewardship program that will be phased in during the next several years. He also mentioned his intention to meet soon with the clergy of the Archdiocese after returning from his upcoming trip abroad. Subjects on this clergy meeting include such subjects as long-range planning - liturgical concerns - spirituality - stewardship - etc.

The bishop was urged by a council member to also share such information with the laity; His Grace responded positively.

6. Fr. Carpenter then distributed information and briefly outlined a proposal from the FOCUS ministry to establish a ministry center in the Pittsburgh region. The initial planning session was held recently at the St. George Antiochian Cathedral in (Oakland) Pittsburgh. He mentioned that this concept might include use of the St. Michael property in the Lower Hill District of Pittsburgh.

7. A discussion concerning the continued problems with the Archdiocese's bulk mailing process resulted in a *motion* (Fr. Senyo/ R. Skvir) to authorize His Grace to obtain bids from professional mailing firms and engage the firm making the most advantageous bid. (*Motion passed unanimously.*)

8. A *motion* to adjourn (E. Markoff/ Igumen Patrick (Carpenter) was unanimously accepted by the body at 8:47 PM. The meeting closed with prayer led by Bishop MELCHISEDEK.

Secretarial Note: The next meeting date for the Archdiocesan Council was not discussed. This will be determined after the council elections at the Archdiocesan Assembly are completed.

Respectfully submitted in Christ,

//signed//

Very Rev. William J. Evansky
Archdiocesan Secretary

//signed//

Bishop MELCHISEDEK
Bishop of Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania

//signed//

Very Rev. Paul R. Ziatyk
Archdiocesan Chancellor