

11/21/21 St Nicholas Orthodox Church Parish Council Meeting- in person
Attending: Fr John, Deacon Igor, Jan Bear, Janet Frazier, Charles Iragui, Amy Lines, Tim Moore, and Jennifer McDonald. Absent: Fr. David, Bobby Borisov.(MSA- moved, seconded, approved)

1. Meeting opened with prayer.
 2. Minutes of the October parish and semi-annual meetings were reviewed and approved.
 3. Rector's report- Bishop Benjamin will be here 12/5. (He will not be here for vespers on Saturday.) There is usually a gift to the bishop at this type of visit, something also for a visiting deacon. Two subdeacons will be coming; they are not usually compensated, but we discussed at least compensating for travel expenses. We decided \$500 for bishop, deacons \$100 and subdeacon \$100 for travel. Fr would like us to have a loaf of bread and salt to give the bishop. He will arrange this.
 4. Treasurer's report: Checking ~\$16k. Savings \$7.4k. Money market \$511. St. Martin \$123k.
YTD income/expense- +\$1,349. Monthly YTD income/expense -\$3,569.
 5. Business: -- Poinsettias are ordered; these come out of flower budget. Church needs to be kept at 67F and plants not overwatered.
 - Parish does not presently have a parish lawyer. Janet mentioned that Bobby Bouneff's partner, Mr. Chally, would be a good option. The firm has our parish papers. There are other lawyers in the firm. Charles identified an issue- Bobby was a pro bono lawyer, but that may not be true with the new lawyer. He wonders about having the same lawyer as another OCA church, to perhaps save money. MSA to stay with present group for now, but investigate Charles' option. There is a separate issue of needing a person who represents us for Service of Process. Father put his own name down. There is a small fee per year. Charles does not think this would be acceptable indefinitely d/t liability. Fr. John will look into the issue of other parishes' lawyers.
 - Question about skipping December meeting. Budget and nominations will need to start working before a January meeting. Tim and Janet have been on as short-time positions, but would be willing to stay on longer. Charles and Jennifer will be leaving. MSA to not have a meeting. Next meeting will be Jan 9. Annual meeting will be on Feb 27, which is Meatfare Sunday, immediately after church. Discussion about having the meeting during lunch failed for lack of a second.
 - MSA to recommend St. Martin's committee to match monetary donations to the Advent Blanket Fund. St. Martin request forms- where will be placed- in hall on the bulletin board by Father's office. (Amy)
 - St. Elizabeth committee sent a letter requesting some format to allow a 'Greening the Parish' initiative within the parish. 3 options were suggested- a 6th work-team in the 5-year plan, a sub-committee for St. Elizabeth itself, or making an overarching goal w/in the parish for 1 or 5 years and having the 5 work teams for the 5-year plan include the issue w/in their efforts. MSA to allow St. Elizabeth to create a sub-committee to address this issue.
- St. Elizabeth would like to start a 'buy nothing' process at St. Nicholas. This concept is to give and get items from other people at no cost. The format would be a table in the hall. People would bring small items (or pictures of large items), which other people could take. These would be identified by owner and have a time limit, after which the owner would need to remove any remaining items. Agreed that this can be announced, but not started until after the Bishop's visit.

There will be handout with guidelines. Nancy Jones has volunteered to be the coordinator of this project.

-- Masking mandate has not changed.

-- By-law committee should restart. Fr. sent out the present Diocesan-bylaws-for-parishes as recently approved by the diocesan assembly this autumn. The committee will discuss with Fr. David some issues he had mentioned- some items often in by-laws do not actually belong in bylaws. (Amy, Jennifer, Rebecca)

-- Bulletin- updating the parish ministries on the bulletin. (Amy, Jennifer)

-- Roof maintenance- to ask if the company can also clean the high windows on the parish.

-- Question of whether to buy offering envelopes, since very few people are using them- we will ask people to RSVP if they want them. We will also order fewer calendars next year.

-- 5-year plan work groups- not including today's sign-ups- worship- 4, spiritual-1, education-1, service- 1, social 2.

6. Next meeting Jan 9, 12:15 pm. Then 2/6. Annual meeting Feb 27.

7. Meeting closed with prayer.

Jennifer McDonald- Secretary