

**St. Paul the Apostle Orthodox Church  
Dayton, Ohio**

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting**

**October 16, 2017**

Present: Fr. Ted, Brian Garber, Kerrie Wiese, Bill Turri, Ann McLarnan, Rebecca Barone, Janine Elash, Bruce Garber

Meeting called to order at 6:05 PM.  
Opening Prayer: 'O Heavenly King' .

Minutes, Financial Report, Budget Planning

The September minutes were approved with the correction of a typographical error.

Council discussed and adopted a proposed 2018 budget of \$266,680.00. This is a 1.5% increase over the 2017 budget.

Kerrie Wiese presented the July 2017 financial reports. She noted that year-to-date giving was actually 56% of the operating budget, not 43% as is listed on the form. The parish continues to operate within the 2017 budget, but contributions year-to-date are nearly \$10,000 lower than at this time last year, continuing a trend set over the last few years.

The playground is fully funded. There may be some further contributions coming in; they will go towards reducing the parish contribution.

Pledge forms will go out to the parish with the other Annual Meeting materials in late October. The parish has 130 members. In recent years we have gotten fewer pledges and the amount pledges has been less. Several significantly contributing families have moved or left the parish, so this will be a year to pay close attention to pledges and trends in contributions. If giving does not increase we will need to make cuts beginning with the 2019 budget.

Getting prompt pledges from all members has been somewhat difficult in recent years. Fr. Ted encouraged council members to get their pledges in early to demonstrate to the rest of the parish that we are serious about this. We will ask for pledge forms to be returned within a few weeks of the annual meeting, and ask members to give careful thought to increasing the amount they pledge. Council discussed arranging for members to get a mid-year update on how much they have pledged and what they have given year-to-date.

We will stress to the parish that our income is running below the expenses called for by the approved budget. We have not overspent, and have remained within the budget, but we need to increase giving. Our budget is relatively high, but it is based on what it actually costs to operate the parish. The budget includes \$1700 per month in charitable giving and a \$15,000 annual addition to the capital expense fund to have ready for when major expenses arise.

Annual Parish Meeting, Risk Committee Updates, New Diocesan Assessment Plan

Council discussed preparations for the 2017 Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Sunday, November 12. Packets with all necessary materials (proposed 2018 budget, parish reports, financial reports, absentee ballots) will be emailed to parish members within the next 2 weeks. Parish members can begin submitting pledge forms immediately. Nominations for Parish Council (4 to be elected): Brian Garber, Ann McLarnan, Kerrie Wiese, David Short. Nominations for Auditors (2 to be elected): Dave Cooper Matt Ferdelman. Nominations for Diocesan Assembly (October 2018) Representative (1 to be elected): Ann McLarnan. Nominations for All American Council (July 2018 in St. Louis, MO) Representative (1 to be elected): Janine

Elash.

There was continued discussion about the proposed bulletin announcement about the use of alcohol at the Paschal Agape Meal. This will go in the bulletin during the last few weeks of Lent 2018.

Council discussed two updates to the Facilities Policy proposed by the Risk Committee. The first, clarifying that the council has the right to refuse permission for use of parish facilities for a non-parish-sponsored social event, was approved. The second, concerning which liturgically-related parish social events require an application and deposit, is still under consideration.

Ann McLarnan reported from the Diocesan Assembly that the new method for determining parish contributions to the Diocese and OCA will be finalized and voted on at the next Assembly in October 2018, planned to take effect in 2019. It could result in an increase of about \$300/ mo in our payments to the Diocese. We need to ask several questions about how our budgeted charitable contributions and capital improvement fund will affect the amount of our income subject to "assessment."

The meeting ended at 8:00 PM with St. Simeon's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

---

V. Rev. Theodore Bobosh, Rector

---

Ann McLarnan, Secretary

Ratified \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_