

**St Paul the Apostle Orthodox Church**

**Dayton Ohio**

**Parish Council Meeting  
July 17, 2017**

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

Brian Garber called the meeting to order at 6:10. Fr. Ted led "O Heavenly King."

The minutes of the June 19, 2017 council meeting were approved.

Financial Report and Budget Planning

Kerrie Wiese reported that contributions year-to-date remain lower than last year. For 2017 contributions through June total 40% of the operating budget; for 2016 the total was 49%. This will have implications as the proposed 2018 budget is developed. If parishioners are aware of potential new funding needs for next year, please let Kerrie know soon so they can be taken into consideration.

Brian Garber noted that coffee and donuts are currently over budget. This needs to be looked at. Religious Education appears over as well, but this is because money in last year's budget for the Icon Celebration came out of the checking account this year. Kerrie reported that the separate Icon Fund account has been closed.

Risk Committee Changes to Manual

Council discussed the draft Facilities Policy changes provided by the Risk Committee.

It was noted that according to Ohio law it is legal for parents to serve alcohol to their own children so long as the parents are providing supervision.

In the case of alcohol being served at a private function in the fellowship hall, if caterers are providing the alcohol the caterers must have event insurance. If the parishioners using the fellowship hall are providing the alcohol the parishioners must have their own event insurance.

The policy manual specifies that any use of alcohol in the parish (other than liturgical) needs permission from the council. This has never been done for Pascha or for the annual picnic. We will ask the Risk Committee what was meant. Is this an obsolete requirement or should this now be done each year?

The risk committee also reaffirmed the policy that any smoking or vaping should be done in the parking lot. Janine Elash wanted to make clear that she disagrees with this policy and feels that concern for the comfort of all parish members should include allowing smoking or vaping on the back patio also.

Ann McLarnan noted that the proposed instructions for parishioners using the fire pit should specify that the Sugar creek fire department needs to be called and notified at the point a bonfire is lit and called again when the fire is extinguished.

The council discussed access to restrooms in the building for groups using the playground/fire pit. If playground or fire pit use is for an official parish program such as the youth group or the park days group, any keyholder can open the church to allow restroom use. Parishioners arranging to use the outdoor facilities for non-parish activities should not expect church access unless they have also arranged to use the Fellowship Hall including providing the \$500 deposit.

Short Term items

Janine Elash reported that she has gotten volunteer survey responses from 50 people and has compiled a list of who is willing to do what. She will mail the survey to those who have not yet completed.

Sugar creek Township guidance on fire pit safety has been submitted to the risk committee.

The Annual Parish Picnic is Sunday, August 27 on the parish grounds after Divine Liturgy.

Playground Project

Rebecca Barone reported that the special pledge campaign to fund the playground area has been quite successful. Enough money was pledged to fully fund the larger of the two potential playground designs, with a little left over. 32 families made pledges; 5 pledges have been fulfilled so far. She will keep the announcement about turning in the pledged funds by the end of September in the bulletin and make another after Liturgy in a couple of weeks.

The deposit has been put down for the play structure. Installation is expected some time in September. The balance will be due within 30 days of installation. Once the company schedules the factory build date, the next step will be to arrange with Tree Care to have the necessary trees removed and the site prepared. Tree Care will donate the needed mulch. Since several

trees will need to be taken down, Rebecca proposed using the wood in a project to benefit the parish. She will ask parish woodworkers for ideas. The cross and several icon stands will also need to be relocated.

Maintenance Issues

Brian Garber reported on upcoming maintenance issues. Two of the six air conditioning compressor units have been malfunctioning. The first step will be to have electricians check the electrical system in the church building including tightening connections, for \$500. The next step would be replacing units, at an approximate cost of \$10,000 each. Money has been saved for that eventuality under the Facilities Long Term Maintenance Plan. If the electrical work doesn't fix the problem, council agreed that we should take the next step of asking for multiple quotes for replacing one or two of the compressor units.

The meeting ended at 7:11 with Fr. Ted leading the prayer of St. Simeon.

Respectfully submitted,

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V. Rev. Theodore Bobosh, Rector

Ann McLarnan, Secretary

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