

June Parish Council Meeting Minutes
St. Paul the Apostle Orthodox Church
6/18/19

Council Members Present: Heather Weis, Ann McLarnan, Bruce Garber, Fr. Theodore Bobosh, David Short, Brian Garber, David Avdakov, and Kerrie Wiese

Lay Members Present: John Brausch, David Abshear, and Laura Short

Opening Prayer and Call to Order

Bruce led prayer to the Holy Spirit.

Bruce called meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

Approval of May Meeting Minutes

David Short moved to accept minutes. Bruce seconded the motion. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Priestly Remarks: Fr. Ted's Retirement

Reassuring the Parish

Council discussed how we can reassure parish members, especially new members about the transition to a new priest. Several options were presented. It is agreed that Father Ted should continue taking questions after liturgy and David Short suggested also having a question box available. The typical structure for transitioning between priests can be found on the OCA website. Fr. Silviu Bunta was discussed as an interim option in the unlikely case that a priest is not found by Aug. 30th, but this is not a solid option since Fr. Silviu is not under Bishop Paul.

Council To-Do List

Council discussed their requirements for the transition and other ways to get ready for a new priest. Fr. Ted will make a list of contacts, vendors or services that he typically interfaces with (such as the landscaper), for Parish Council, and we will distribute the contacts as needed. David Short suggested drawing up a parish profile to give to Bishop Paul to assist him in the selection process, as well as to give to the new priest as a debriefing document; Fr. Ted concurred that a demographic sheet may be helpful, though he noted that our selection will be based on the candidates that present themselves for the position. Brian noted that the issue of Fr. Ted's retirement was broached during Bishop Paul's last visit, and the parish's needs/desires regarding a priest were discussed. Fr. Ted stated that Bishop Paul appears to feel confident that a candidate will be found in time to replace him on Aug. 30th.

Brian pointed out that the most important piece we can work on is the Retirement Package for Fr. Ted, as well as the Compensation Package for the new priest.

Retirement Party

Bruce brought up the issue of Fr. Ted's retirement party and who will coordinate it. Several names were suggested, though none were decided upon.

Serving Families with Special Needs

Bruce told the council that he spoke with a new parent with special needs, and that the parent feels very welcomed here. Bruce suggested that we continue to allow the cry room to be used as a space for people with special needs in addition to young children.

Building Upgrades and Equipment Replacements

High Water Bill

No leak was found, but a faulty urinal valve that caused continual flushing will be replaced.

Security System

The alarm system issued a "low battery" message and a "communication failure" message. Bruce will replace the batteries. Fr. Ted explained that the communication failure message resolved after AT&T came out to address and outage.

Facilities Committee Report

Women's Restroom Remodel

Bruce presented a quote he received for the restroom remodel, which amounts to \$14,000, though he is interested in getting additional quotes. The decision was tabled until the next council meeting, pending the decision about the parking lot.

Parking Lot Repaving

John Brausch presented a plan for parking lot repair (Appendix A). Council discussed timing (parts of the lot

will be usable during the repairs) and estimated cost; Kerrie noted that we have \$91,000 in the building fund, so we could potentially do the parking lot repairs and the suggested women's restroom repairs this year. Ann noted that given the upcoming changes to the parish, we may want to be conservative with spending. John stated that parking lot repairs must be done for safety, but the women's restroom can be pushed if needed. John was still waiting on two additional quotes and will report back to parish when he has chosen a contractor; council will determine which repairs to complete after John's next report.

Fellowship Hall Chairs

Council agreed to replace 8-12 chairs in the fellowship hall at \$120 for a pack of four.

Utility Shed Replacement

Bruce would like to replace the utility shed. He estimates the cost at \$2000 for an 8x8 model that will be pre-built and delivered. We would need to have a gravel bed. Bruce has already gotten zoning permissions for the structure.

Mulch Turning and Playground Mulching

The landscaper asked Fr. Ted if we wanted him to turn the mulch to give it a fresh look and help it decompose. Council approved this measure. This landscaper can also provide the mulch for the playground at \$85/cubic yard. Council approved the measure, and Bruce agrees to get the contact info from Fr. Ted.

Missions Committee Report

Tornado Response

David Short reported on the current tornado relief efforts that he has managed, which included several volunteers from the parish on June 12-14. They helped by raking debris into the street and spent a day clearing the yard for a woman who was house-bound. He also detailed the upcoming plans for long-term relief, which will focus on reconstruction; he will look into the organizations that will come to the area and assemble a team to assist when the time comes.

Church School Committee Report

Classroom Damage

Kerrie has not noted any additional issues following an announcement made after liturgy.

Financial Report

Kerrie did not have the May financial report to share.

Church Staff Pay/ Compensation Committee

Bruce noted that we must have a Compensation Committee that determines the staff pay, so he moved to form one. Kerrie asked if the Budget Committee and the Compensation Committee can be the same since they would need to work closely together. David Short, Kerrie Wiese, and David Avdakov volunteered for the Compensation Committee. They will meet soon to discuss the Compensation Package for the new priest.

Automated Counting Software

Counting system will be automated onto google sheets, and Brian Garber, Jeff Wiese and David Short will be working on it.

Bishop Paul's Visit

Bishop Paul will be visiting Aug. 8th-11th. Kerrie and Heather will chair the event; Heather will take care of the schedule and Kerrie will take care of the lodging.

New Business

Investment Opportunities

Dave presented a plan for investment opportunities in CDs. Pres and Vice can make these purchases. Long-term plan for the church to eventually get a portfolio of 60% in stocks and 40% in bonds because stocks out-perform bonds. We would do this in baby steps.

- Decide to do it.
- Get it set up.
- Implement the plan.

Fr. Ted would favor us doing this since we have talked about it for years and have not done it, so we have had money sitting there earning nothing. David Short motioned that we move forward with the initial plan to build a portfolio in CDs. Brian seconded. Council approved.

Eventually, we need an investment policy statement. David Avdakov says to start investing in CDs with \$25,000. The brokered CDs do not have a penalty for withdrawing the security before the maturity date. With that said, the idea is to hold these CDs until they mature.

David Short motioned to start with the \$25,000 and then revisit it monthly. Heather seconded, and proposed moving the stock question to next meeting. David Avdakov will come back with proposals for stocks at the next meeting.

Treasurer Replacement

Bruce will take Kerrie's place next year and vacate the role of president.

Vacation Church School

We are giving Annunciation \$1000 for VCS, and Heather and Erin Caldwell are assisting Annunciation with the program.

Parish Feast Day

We will have the celebration for the feast day after liturgy on Saturday. Christopher's will cater and we will have a bounce house and decorations; over all, it will be fairly low key.

Wills, POA, and Estate Planning Workshop

Bruce has scheduled this for June 22nd at 10AM. Babysitting has still not been determined; Heather will reach out to her contacts for the event.

Sweeper for Nave

Victor Weis suggested we buy a larger sweeper for the nave. David Short suggested getting a commercial grade sweeper. Council approved.

Approval of March Meeting Minutes

Minutes are approved unanimously.

Closing Prayer: St. Simeon's Prayer

Bruce adjourned the meeting at 8:02 PM.

Action Items

Heather

- Make Itinerary for Bishop Paul's visit.
- Reach out to babysitting contacts for Wills Seminar.

Bruce

- Order sweeper for the Nave.
- Get the contact info for the landscaper from Fr. Ted. Have him do the playground mulch.

David Avdakov

- Prepare proposal for stock investments for the parish.
- Move forward with the \$25,000 investment in CDs.

David Short

Look into the organizations that will come to the area and assemble a team to assist when the time comes.

Father Ted

Make a list of contacts, vendors or services that you typically interface with (such as the landscaper), for Parish Council.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Ratified: ____/____/____

Appendix A

