

2020-06-16: June Parish Council Meeting

Required attendees	Fr. Gregory Bruce Garber Ann McLarnan Heather Weis David Avdakov Alyson Turri David Short James Cunningham
Optional attendees	David Abshear Erin Caldwell
Bold were present	

Agenda/Notes

- **Opening Prayer:** Christ is Risen
- **Consent Decision Items**
 - **Last Meeting Minutes** (attachment [01-2020-05-19 April Meeting Notes-Final](#))
 - **Approval**
 - **Motion:** Bruce Garber
 - **Second:** Heather Weis
 - **Passed:** Unanimous
 - **April financials** (attachment [02-April 2020 Financials](#))
 - **Approval**
 - **Motion:** David Avdakov
 - **Second:** Jim Cunningham
 - **Passed:** Unanimous
- **Outstanding Action Items** (see below)
- **Miscellaneous/Other Items**
 - **Financial Overview** (Bruce Garber)
 - Laura is working on these for council approval. Contributions are coming in by check – Bruce says these are higher than pledged – expenses are down. Two parish families given a total of \$1600 in May, and we gave to two charities this month \$500 each for \$1000 - Focus and Nativity of the Theotokos Monastery.
 - David Cooper (auditor) gave 2019 audit materials to Fr. Gregory who will put them in the office. Matt Ferdelman is the next auditor to do the second half of the year.
 - **New robes for altar boys** (Jim Cunningham)
 - We need to order 2 small robes and sashes at a cost of \$800.
 - **Approval**
 - **Motion:** Bruce Garber
 - **Second:** Heather Weis
 - **Passed:** Unanimous
 - Jim Cunningham will follow up to get these done.
- **Discuss Parish Reopening Plan**
 - Review progress to date
 - Currently authorized for 25 people.
 - Review proposal for moving to 45 people. (Fr. Gregory and David Short)
 - Continuing to monitor the COVID-19 data on a regular basis (see attached [04-Ohio Data Analysis 2020-06-17.pdf](#))

- When we move up to 45 people then a rotation will be set up and we will stop the drawing.
- Parish cleaning day.
 - Recommending that we have Kathy do a church cleaning the week before we move to the large group and save the Parish Cleaning Day until Nativity. (David Short)
 - Everyone agreed to this recommendation.
- Bruce mentioned that we are now opening windows during services for better circulation.
- Heather asked about reintroducing candles – any location – narthex or sanctuary. She wanted to know about people lighting their own candles without assistance. Dave Short mentioned that it may be a common use issue that the Bishop does not want. Fr. Gregory will check with the Bishop on this.
- Review potential celebration for Parish feast day.
 - Fr. Gregory discussed parish feast day on 29th and wants it to be a bit more festive with overflow on patio with people bringing food for themselves.
 - The Bishop has said no – so keep it at number we are currently “on”.
 - As such, Fr. Gregory is inclined to not do anything this year as many would be excluded.
- Additional discussion items.
 - Bishop Paul said that 40 will be the near future max. David Short says that the pews accommodate the 40 well with distancing.
 - David Avdakov asked about the “x” marks – had a concern about the marks from row to row not being at least 6 feet apart. David Short said that greeters will help with seating and spacing.
 - David Avdakov asked about masks and incense with respect to smoke being a way in spreading the virus. He was concerned if this will be an issue. Fr. Gregory said the patterns of movement, not the smoke, may be the issues and the Synod would address it if it were an issue. Fr. Gregory asked about the ceiling fans – can they be reversed? Mentioned having Bruce reverse these.
 - Ann McLarnan asked about the data analysis and mentioned a couple of counties are mislabeled - David Short will fix.
 - Alyson asked about the seating chart – how many can we have in total for 6 feet in social distancing? David Short said it is 40.
 - Heather Weis asked about including more families into the mix with small children. Stated we may be overly cautious with checking with families how where they want to sit without contacting them? We are already including multiple families with small children. We only have two spaces in the back for families that would like to let their children sit on the floor. Other families can occupy spaces in the pews.
 - Fr. Gregory mentioned he thought it is going smoothly and that people are being patient.
 - David Short asked that Fr. Gregory ask Bishop Paul where do we go with accommodation on the church size when we can only have 40 people? How do we get beyond that?
 - Alyson Turri mentioned a “required mask Sunday” to help with those who want to be in communion with those with masks only.
 - Fr. Gregory said that with a larger cohort masks most likely will be required.
 - Heather Weis voiced concern with mandatory – and some will not come to church. She mentioned contraindications for some people.
 - Heather Weis mentioned the amount of fear with virus and how it is influencing our decisions – parish mentioned have voiced this. Why are we afraid of death? David S. said we have people with a very wide range of views on this – fearful or diligent?
 - Fr. Gregory mentioned two articles that were posted on oca.org about fear and decisions and he said he would forward these to us.
<https://www.oca.org/reflections/misc-authors/a-letter-of-a-parish-priest-to-his-flock>

<https://www.oca.org/reflections/bishop-alexis/church-holy-communion-orthodox-ethos>

- David Short remarked on requirement on masks – we changed as Bishop Paul changed his directive. We need to comply with him – no more and no less. Bruce Garber said some parishioners have health issues that they cannot wear a mask.
- **Additional items**
 - Alyson mentioned a Facebook post by a parishioner complaining about noise in the parish during the broadcast from children. David Short said all sound travels and echoes in the sanctuary without as many people present. Once we have the microphones set it will be better.
 - Discussion about community Facebook page – announcements
 - Group page is private
 - Discussion about moderating comments
- **Fr. Gregory Closed:** Shine O New Jerusalem

Action Items

Action Item	Responsible	Due Date
Outstanding		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate getting parts for the oven doors. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Springs are \$47 each, two per door. • Bruce will order two. • David Short will repair. 	David Short	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burn a week's services onto a DVD. 	David Short	In Process
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact candle suppliers and request a delay for one month of delivery. 	Erin Caldwell	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up with Facility Committee to move forward with internet upgrade. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade is in process. • John Brausch and Victor Weis are working on the details • This will also replace the phone in Fr. Gregory's office by putting it on the Spectrum service. • We have not been invoiced yet. 	Bruce Garber	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look into sound cable and camera location. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sound cable has arrived and will be installed. • Still need to look into camera location 	David Short	Completed
New		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up on order of robes and sashes. 	Jim Cunningham	06/30/20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide sample copy of stats for reopening parish. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See attached 	David Short	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check with Bishop Paul on allowing people to light candles. 	Fr. Gregory	06/30/20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct mislabeled counties on COVID documentation. 	David Short	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask Bishop Paul where do we go with accommodation on the church size when we can only have 40 people? How do we get beyond that? 	Fr. Gregory	06/30/20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send links to OCA articles. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email sent. • Also see notes above. 	Fr. Gregory	Completed

On Hold until after COVID-19 dealt with		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check with Joe Kormos on possibility of doing a Parish Planning Workshop this fall, including cost, timing, and preparation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email sent/received on 02/08. • David Short awaiting response 	David Short	On Hold
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish Council representatives on the committees will work with their committees to set up a charter. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education, Social, and Risk Management Charters completed 	All	In Process
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review possibilities for having an additional legal discussion for parishioners. 	David Avdakov	On Hold
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Bylaws and update Policies and Procedures to accommodate having Parish Council candidates share about themselves after liturgy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is not in the Bylaws or the Policies and Procedures. • Recommended change: <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><i>1.3.2 Parish Council Membership (11/13/2016, revised 3/31/2020)</i></p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Parish Council eligibility and term requirements are as outlined in the Parish Bylaws. It is recommended that candidates for election to the Parish Council be introduced to the Parish prior to the annual meeting and be given the opportunity to share why they are interested in being a member of the Parish Council.</p> 	David Short	In Process
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with Betty Gould to secure materials for Dayton Performing Arts and present during fellowship hour. 	David Avdakov	On Hold