

**Christ the Savior Orthodox Church**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarterly Parish Council Meeting**  
**Sunday July 16, 2023**

The meeting was opened with a prayer led by Fr. John at 11:15 am.

In Attendance:

- Rector: Fr. John Parsells.
- Council: Justin DeArmitt, Mirona Bendfeldt, Barbara Kaloroumakis, Beth Dunbar, Joe Dunbar, Anne Rowe, Pat McAlpin, and Vera Yevsukov.
- Virtual Attendees: Don Rowe, Tom Mathews, Georgianne Mathews.
- Also attending: Nancy Hall, Daria Parsells, Marian Ridge, and Ludmila Yevsukov.

Agenda:

- Review of Previous Minutes
- Report of the Rector
- Report of the Treasurer
- Old and New Business

**Review of Previous Minutes**

Fr. John invited the meeting participants to amend or approve the minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarterly parish council meeting, which were taken by Secretary Vera, distributed via email.

**Motion** to accept the minutes: Mirona

**Second:** Pat

**Vote:** All in favor

**Report of Rector**

Fr. John presented the rector's report (see handout).

- Fr. John noting that one attendance sheet (during the month of May) was missing, resulting in lack of data for these services (denoted "N/A"). Overall summer attendance average shows parish growth over the years.
- Mirona raising a question regarding any report on church school news, or pool use; Father clarifying that the rector's report shows a select few data points and events, and that for logistical reasons it would be difficult to report on every event that was held.
- Of note, the parish will begin instruction of Orthodoxy 101 Class on September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Father expressed thanks to all those who contributed to beautifying the parish entrance in memory of Fr. Daniel. The parish will now have a candlemaker: Justin Barkowich. His role will allow for in-house reuse and recycling of candle stubs to save on cost of candles.

## Report of the Treasurer

- Treasurer Barbara began with Matushka Dunia's going away party: the total cost for the party was in the amount of \$1,650 (including photo frame and cake). All other costs were covered by donation. About one third of this \$1,650 amount has been covered.
  - Father suggested plans to appeal for donations to cover the remaining money beginning next Sunday (remaining amount: a little over \$1,000).
- See balance sheet and profit and loss document for details. Some discussion ensued regarding the net operating income. Per Father John: the amount of \$76,784.31 represents income on the budget; \$65,834.68 is total expenses; \$10,949.63 is net operating income. The net operating income is at a surplus for now. However, bills are not regular month to month: Father John and Barbara agree that the parish is projecting to be on budget by end of the year (insurance and other bills of large sums will be charged at the end of the year). Following some questions, Father John clarifies that though the net income on the profit and loss sheet displays a negative \$14,809.91, expenses for the parking lot project and Project Illumination were covered by donations from previous years.
- Barbara brought up a suggestion to outsource an accountant to have parish books looked at to ensure all financials are in order and to minimize weight on treasurer position. Father suggesting to potentially request a quote for such a service.
  - Barbara planning to speak with Iona Davidson (potentially to outsource to her, or one of her colleagues) regarding review of church accounts.
- Anne brought up a question related to parish tax forms, and whether we actually own the parish. Per Father: Christ the Savior parish is under the OCA Dioceses, and the Dioceses own the church. The priest and parishioners are the stewards of our church, and this parish is going through standard OCA policies and procedures. It was agreed that for the filling out tax forms and other documents, it could benefit the parish to obtain some professional oversight for these tasks.
- Nancy asked a question regarding donation to building funds. Father clarified by stating that the parish has 2 building fund accounts: 1. Savings (cannot be touched unless the entire parish agrees and His Beatitude also approves: about \$1,000 in this account), and 2. Operating account (can be expended at parish council level).
  - Barbara stating that the savings account is subject to frequent service fee charges, and that she will find out what requirements are to these decrease these fees.
  - Nancy posing the question that if she were to donate to building fund, where would it go. Per Father: the donor would be the one to decide whether it would go to either of the two accounts designated for this purpose.

**Motion** to accept the report of treasurer: Beth

**Second:** Justin

**Vote:** All in favor

## Old and New Business

- No old business.
- New temple: Some discussion ensued regarding construction of a new church, following questions about building fund. Fr. John stated that beginning fundraising for such project may first require consultation with an architect to determine the scope of the undertaking, and that this pursuit would require an expenditure of money. One piece of this includes the cost of wetland delineation (projected to be \$1,000-2,000, per Father).
  - Upon further discussion on the subject, Father John suggested to reconvene church Building Committee. Anne and other council members proposed an idea for potential sketches/drawings to be created to spur fundraising for this project.
  - Pat recommended a meeting of the Building Committee (Tom Mathews and Don Rowe co-chairs) soon to continue the way forward.
- Father John discusses a donation, in the amount of \$2,000, that was given to renovate the church's back room (\$2,000). The hope is to refurbish this room into a more functional and comfortable space for all who use it (counters/choir director/church school members) in a way that streamlines its current function.
  - Father John proposing the formation of a new committee for this undertaking. Daria and Pat volunteer to be on the new committee; Justin as well, as Senior Warden. Father suggesting choir director Alexis DeArmitt to be on committee as well).
  - Questions arose regarding specific use of the donation and reorganization of the space. Fr. John clarified that in addition to reorganizing the space, the project may include ridding it of old and bulky furniture; installing copier, printer, fax machines; removing files from rectory office and moving them to the back room for easier access to choir members. In addition, there are plans to incorporate a network attached storage device in order to enable remote access of files via laptop (primarily for choir director's ease of use).
  - Mirona suggested to include a lock on the file cabinet, as the room will be used for church school as well.
  - New committee to create a report to the council and discuss.
- Father John stated that scheduling a specific date for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarterly meeting will held off for logistical ease. Projected to be sometime in early October.

Justin moved for adjournment, Barbara second, approved. The meeting closed with a prayer at 11:48 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Vera Yevsukov, Secretary