

Fall Metropolitan Council Meeting 2017

The full set of minutes from this session will be on the OCA website as soon as they are available. Below is a brief outline of the meeting in the interim.

The session opened on Monday, September 19th with a MC retreat facilitated by OCA Archivist Alexis Liberovsky. The topic of the retreat was the history of the autocephaly of the OCA. A document outlining the autocephaly is attached and made part of this report.

Metropolitan Tikhon

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon lead an open discussion regarding the upcoming 50th Anniversary of the OCA and Glorification of Saint Herman. A brainstorming session discussing possible events highlighting the occasion generated many ideas. In his opening remarks, Metropolitan Tikhon further developed his vision of the Church for the future, including specific issues to be addressed by the Metropolitan Council. Specifically, he presented a draft document on his "Four Pillars" for Council members to review. This document will be distributed once it is finalized and ready for publication.

Chancellor's Report

Fr. John Jillions presented his report highlighting a couple of areas, in particular, ORSMA and SMPAC. It was noted that diocesan compliance with background checks was getting better, but that it still had room to improve.

Secretary's Report

Fr. Eric Tosi presented on the upcoming 19th All-American Council (AAC) to be held in St. Louis in July, 2018. The agenda was unanimously recommended to the Holy Synod. Vendors have been given a location to set up providing plenty of options to choose from. In addition to the update on the 19th AAC, Fr. Eric also gave an update on the construction project for the OCA Archives at the Chancery. That project is done with the planning stage and is now waiting on permitting to begin the construction phase. Fr. Eric, also updated the MC on the OCA website redesign. That project is moving along well in effort to make the website more user friendly. It was noted that people from all over the world access the OCA website. One of the main reasons for accessing the website appears to be to download the liturgical music pages.

Treasurer's Report

The 2018 budget was presented and passed unanimously. Melanie Ringa (OCA Treasurer) provided an outline on existing investments and bequests of the OCA. The projected income for the OCA is estimated to be \$45,000 less than the previous year as a result of the funding formula adopted at the 2015 AAC in Atlanta. With three months left in the year, it is expected that the OCA will have a small surplus in the operating budget.

Stewards of the OCA

Archdeacon Joseph Matusiak presented his report for the Stewards of the OCA. The Archdeacon is in the process of completing an eight week course titled "Principles and Techniques in Fundraising." He anticipates rolling out a church wide appeal, the first in many years in the coming months. Total donations to the meeting date for 2017 were \$184,000.

Department of Evangelization

Fr. John Parker presented his report on the Department of Evangelization. Major topics of the report highlighted outreach to Mexico and attendance at national gatherings of various religious groups. Fr. Parker reminded the MC of a sizable bequest given to the OCA as part of an estate settlement. He encouraged the MC to invest some of that money into outreach and evangelization. Fr. Parker will follow up with a proposal to the MC on how and where to apply a portion of those funds.

Closing Remarks

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon thanked everyone for their efforts and hard work not only during the meeting but also between sessions.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick Pletnikoff", written in a cursive style.

Subdeacon Patrick Pletnikoff
October 13, 2017