

Diocesan Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 31, 2007
St. Paul the Apostle Church, Las Vegas, Nevada

The meeting opened with prayer.

Diocesan Council Members Present: His Grace, Bishop BENJAMIN, Auxiliary Bishop and Chancellor; Nadine Wood, Secretary; Mary Caetta, Treasurer; Archpriests Joseph Hirsch and Anthony Karbo, Priests David Lowell, Lawrence Margitich, and John Strickland; Steve Knowlton, and Carole Shumaik.

Deans Present: Archpriests Bazyl Kalinowski, Matthew Tate, and Lawrence Russell.

His Grace, Bishop BENJAMIN convened the meeting to discuss the following topics:

- Installation date for Diocesan Bishop – October 2007 at the Assembly of the Diocese of the West. His Beatitude, Metropolitan HERMAN will attend. His Grace informed the members of the council that the deans would like to have the installation earlier than October. Discussion followed. Mary Caetta moved to have the Enthronement in conjunction with the Diocesan Assembly, the date to be October 2 – 4, 2007, seconded by Archpriest Matthew Tate. Passed.
- Steiner Street Property – According to the OCA Bylaws, the disposition of property is within the competency of the Diocesan Assembly. His Grace requested Archpriest Matthew Tate to work with the Realtor, Neil Smithers and the Brotherhood to come to some agreement as to price and date of sale. We still need to obtain a plumbing, drainage and termite inspection at the seller's expense. Archpriest Joseph Hirsch recalled that authority for the disposition of property had been delegated at a previous Diocesan Assembly. He suggested checking the minutes of the Assembly held in Phoenix for details.
Archpriest Ian MacKinnon questioned the drafting of an appeal letter for property in the Bay area. It was suggested that the letter be sent to the entire diocese.

His Grace emphasized the need to move the diocesan files from Holy Virgin Mary Cathedral to LGS in the near future.

- Pt. Reyes – discussion of the disposition of the property and buildings took place. The property consists of 17.1 acres and is worth approximately \$1.5 million. The zoning law requires 10 acres to build and therefore the property cannot be subdivided. There is a possibility the present chapel could be moved to Manton and the land sold with the funds used as a down payment for the purchase of the Steiner Street property. His Grace suggested that the 2008 budget include monies for repairs, improvements, taxes and utilities of a diocesan chancery. It was noted that one of the benefits of purchasing the Steiner Street property is keeping the current pre-Proposition 13 tax base. Further discussion of the possible uses of the Steiner Street property followed.
- LGS Update – no further information from the last report.
- Appointment of Auditors – Carole Shumaik moved to accept nomination of Priest Michael Reagan, Hennok Soot and Steve Knowlton as auditors, seconded by Archpriest Ian MacKinnon. Passed. The audit will take place at the Tacoma, Washington parish on a weekday in February.
- Appointment of Chancellor of the DOW – His Beatitude, Metropolitan HERMAN appointed Archpriest Ian MacKinnon Chancellor of the Diocese of the West. Mary Caetta was asked to review the budget to provide for a stipend for the Chancellor.

Mary Caetta presented a request from The Russian Children's Charity to use the DOW mailing list for a plea for funds. Svetlana Thomson presented her request on behalf of the Charity. Discussion followed. It was agreed to include an article about the charity submitted by Svetlana Thomson in the next issue of the *Vision* with a special envelope addressed to the charity.

His Grace informed the members of the council that there will be an opening in the Hesperia parish as the Greek priest servicing the parish will be going back to his diocese.

The next meeting of the Diocesan Council will be held on Thursday, April 26 at 20 Steiner Street, San Francisco, California at 10:30 A.M..

The meeting adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Nadine Wood,
Secretary

ACTION ITEMS:

Review minutes of the Diocesan Assembly held in Phoenix, Arizona for delegation of authority for the disposition of diocesan property.

Archpriest Matthew Tate to contact the realtor and members of the Brotherhood to obtain a plumbing, drainage and termite inspection of the Steiner Street property at the expense of the Seller.

Move diocesan files from Holy Virgin Mary Cathedral to LGS

Archpriest Matthew Tate to provide an in-depth report of the meeting of the Metropolitan Council at the next diocesan council meeting.