

COLUMBUS DEANERY MEETING MINUTES

Date: November 18, 2005

Location: St. Paul Orthodox Church - Dayton, OH

Attendees: Arch Bishop JOB
Very Rev. John Zdinak
Very Rev. Daniel Rentel
Very Rev. Ted Bobosh
Very Rev. Steven Kostoff
Rev. Paul Gassios
Rev. Mark Hodges
Rev. Joseph Gibson
Rev. David Maroney
Rev. Philip Lashbrook
Rev. Zachariah Trent

Discussion:

1. Archbishop JOB began by offering an apology on behalf of the Church for letting down those who are "in the trenches." Much energy has been spent on protecting the Church from scandal. The Archbishop is meeting with all of the Diocesan clergy to apprise them of the crisis concerning the finances of the National Church so that they would be prepared to do damage control. The Archbishop gave a chronology of the events leading up to the present state of affairs.
 - A. In 1999 at the AAC the rumor was circulated that there was a problem with the discretionary fund of the Metropolitan. The Synod stated that a discretionary fund is by nature discretionary. Unbeknownst to the Synod, the discretionary fund was in the ballpark of \$1,000,000.00 and comparable to the budget of the OCA in total.
 - B. The treasurer, Proto Deacon Eric Wheeler raised the concerns, was maligned as a trouble maker, and was dismissed. Archbishop Herman took over the treasurer's duties.
 - C. The Archbishop spoke with Arch Deacon Eric in March of 2002 and learned of many things that he did not want to hear concerning the finances of the OCA.
 - D. At the meeting of the Holy Synod, Metropolitan Theodosius announced that he would be retiring.
 - E. Metropolitan Herman was elected and Archbishop JOB was initially encouraged that there would be change in policy. After a couple of

months it was clear that the status quo was being maintained.

- F. The Archbishop received a call from Arch Deacon Eric just prior to the AAC in Toronto. He decided to contact him after the AAC.
- G. The clergy of the diocesan clergy had suggested to the Arch Bishop that we should oppose an increase in assessment until there was accountability with respect to finances.
- H. The Archbishop missed the spring session of the synod due to the death of his mother.
- I. The Arch Bishop set up a meeting with the Metropolitan on May 11th to offer his concerns concerning the finances and other issues.

- L. The Midwest diocesan council drafted a resolution asking for financial transparency. A response was sent that said that further disclosure would be inappropriate.
- M. The Archbishop got wind of reports that Syosset was not pleased with Him.
- N. After vespers on Saturday at the AAC there was a joint meeting of the Synod and the Metropolitan Council. The Metropolitan announced his appointments for the chancery. The administration was retained which was an indication that nothing would change.
- O. The AAC was tightly controlled with little opportunity for comment or questions.
- P. On Friday night while at the AAC the Archbishop received a call from Arch Deacon Eric Wheeler. Eric offered to send him an account of the events that transpired while he was at the Chancery.
- Q. The Archbishop read the account and was disturbed.

- R. The document was distributed to the Synod at the fall meeting.

- T. Archbishop JOB, Archbishop NATHANIEL, Bishop SERAPHIM and Bishop NIKON brought a motion for an audit and the appointment of an Episcopal commission.
- U. The Metropolitan suggested the issue be tabled until the spring session of the Synod. Archbishop JOB disagreed.
2. The Archbishop read the document written by Arch Deacon Eric Wheeler entitled "A call to Accountability".
 3. The Archbishop shared a letter dated July 8, 2005 from the Metropolitan expressing his displeasure with the Archbishop's communication to the diocese concerning his concerns over the financial practices.
 4. The Archbishop voted against the budget due to the fact that the salaries were not revealed. The official minutes did not reflect the fact that he voted no.
 5. Fr. Ted asked about the allegation that funds collected for the victims of 9/11 were not turned over. The Archbishop stated that Fr. Kondratich claimed that it was given to IOCC. IOCC claims that they received nothing from the OCA.
 6. Discussion was held on the proper response to the failure of the National Church to address the allegations. The Archbishop stated that as rector for two parishes he will not be sending the Christmas Stocking appeal or the Charity appeal to Syosset from those two parishes. He stated that the rectors of the other parishes can make their own decisions on this matter.
10. It was agreed that future scheduled appeals (Charity, Seminary, Mission) will not be sent to Syosset but rather directed by each parish to other

related charities (IOCC, OCMC, etc.) until formal audits are conducted and reported.

11. suggested that a letter should be sent to the acting treasurer of the OCA asking if the audit has been contracted and when it will be completed. If a response is not received by February further action will be considered by the Diocese.

Lunch was catered in by Fr. Ted. Many Thanks. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:25 p.m.

If any items included in these minutes are inaccurate please report them to me and I will make the corrections.

Respectfully submitted in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Rev. Zachariah Trent
Associate Priest
St. John the Forerunner Orthodox Church