

Fall Metropolitan Council Meeting 2016

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

The session opened on Monday, September 19th with a MC retreat facilitated by Protodeacon Danilchick and Mr. Charles Ajalat (Founder of IOCC and FOCUS North America). The topic of the retreat was "Christian Leadership in the Church." The day concluded with a debut showing of a film on reaching out to millennials. The film is slated for national distribution in the near future.

The retreat was followed by a review of department and officer reports, some of which are highlighted below.

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon opening remarks

His Beatitude opened the session with remarks on his vision of the Church, with participation in the discussion from the members of the MC. Metropolitan Tikhon reminded the group that "spiritual life must be the foundation for everything."

Chancellor's Report

Fr. John Jillions presented his report highlighting a couple of areas, in particular, ORSMA and SMPAC. Specifically relating to the Diocese of Alaska, it was noted that the diocese is still struggling to get into compliance with background checks on those who are required to have them. These checks are to be done a minimum of once every three years.

Secretary's Report

Among other things, Fr. Eric Tosi presented on the 19th All-American Council (AAC) and the possible locations and dates. Three locations met the size, cost, and time needs of the AAC. Of those three, it was recommended by the MC that the 19th AAC be held in Saint Louis, MO from July 23rd until the 28th.

Treasurer's Report

The year-to-date financials and 2017 budget were reviewed. Year to date numbers looked as predicted with a number of pending bequests disbursing to the OCA. A proposed balanced budget for 2017 was passed. In regards to the recently adopted (18th AAC) funding policy, the tithes being sent to the Central Administration were about as expected. Both the Internal and External Audit reports were given with only minor exceptions being noted.

Stewards of the OCA

Archdeacon Joseph Matusiak presented his report for the Stewards of the OCA. By the date of his report, the Archdeacon noted that \$43,589 has been raised thus far in the year. Fr. Joseph also noted that he had been able to secure a matching grant for any donations generated by the MC during the session. An additional \$4,960 was raised from the MC which will be matched by the grant.

Gifts to the Stewards of the OCA are earmarked to support the following OCA Departments: Christian Education, Christian Service and Humanitarian Aid, Evangelization, Institutional and Military Chaplaincies, Liturgical Music and Translations, Pastoral Life and Ministries, and Youth, Young Adult and

Campus Ministries; Archives and Charities—as well as the Church’s efforts in the areas of Communications, Continuing Education, Diaconal Vocations, External Affairs, and Seminaries and Theological Education.

Metropolitan Tikhon’s “Guiding Framework”

A thorough group discussion finished up the week with breakout groups brainstorming on the Four Pillars outlined by Metropolitan Tikhon at the 18th AAC. Groups listed a broad range of ideas to help further strategize the pillars which are:

- Spiritual Life
- Stewardship
- Evangelism and Outreach
- External Relations

The session concluded with a number of focus areas for each pillar that will be presented to the Holy Synod at their next meeting for consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Archpriest John Dunlap
Subdeacon Patrick Pletnikoff