

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
St. Anthony the Great Orthodox Church  
Wednesday, August 15, 2018**

IN ATTENDANCE

Fr. Leo Poore  
Jerry Troy  
Paul White  
Elaine Jenkins  
Jenée Blanco  
Jeff Bryant  
Nick Brown  
Taylor Troy (Bookkeeper)  
Adriana Brown (Guest)

I. Opening Prayer and Call to Order

A. The meeting was called to order at 7:50 p.m. with the singing of “O Heavenly King”

II. Reading of the Parish Council Oath of Office: Scott Smith

III. Review and Acceptance of Last Month’s Minutes

A. Jerry led the vote for the approval of the July 2018 minutes. Jeff made the motion. Nick seconded the motion. All were in favor.

IV. Priest’s Report

- A. Please be in prayer for Jeanette Morris, who will have bypass surgery on August 31.
- B. Prayers also for Mary Walters who is being treated for cancer.
- C. Chrysa Hefty’s daughter, Elizabeth, needs prayers after having an emergency surgery following a routine doctor check-up.
- D. Thank you to Fr. John Mefrige for serving Great Vespers on Saturday and Divine Liturgy on Sunday while Fr. Leo was out of town making arrangements for his ailing brother-in-law.
- E. Fr. Leo is happy to announce that he administered Holy Chrismation to his sister, Shirley, and brother-in-law, Paul. The christmations will be recorded in the St. Anthony parish records.
- F. Fr. Gerasim requests that Fr. Leo start an OCA mission in Hot Springs, AR in the future.
- G. The baptism scheduled for Saturday, August 18 at 4:00 pm has been postponed.

V. Financial Report

- A. The current balance of the icon project account is \$2,680.00.
- B. Our mortgage is paid off, however, we are not saving money yet as we are paying appraisal fees and land surveys for the new RBFCU loan.
- C. Today’s actual total is \$12,157.10

VI. Old Business

- A. Committee Reports
  - a. Church School: Church School classes begin on September 9.

- b. Brotherhood: No change
- c. Sisterhood: No change
- d. Building Committee: Still needs a president.
- e. Teen Group: The teens will host a luncheon during coffee hour on August 26 to raise funds for their activities and charities.
- f. Icon project: We need about \$5,000 to complete the icon project. Fr. Leo will ask Tina to announce this in the bulletin to seek donations for the remaining amount. Jerry shared an update and photo of the progress of the icon.
- g. RBFCU loan: A land survey will be ordered. Once the survey is completed, all should go fairly quickly with the loan application.

B. St. Anthony 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (January 2019): The Archbishop will visit St. Anthony on January 19-20, 2019. Reader Alexander will be coming from Birmingham, AL on October 26-29, 2018 to help Reader Ben prepare our choir for the Hierarchical Liturgy.

C. Long Term Plan (New Fellowship Hall 2020): No change

#### VII. New Business

A. Jerry communicated Fr. John Mefrige's suggestion that we contact the diocese to request an assistant priest to help Fr. Leo at St. Anthony. Fr. Leo commented that he and Archimandrite Gerasim have discussed this issue in the past. The assistant would most likely need a side job and a stipend. Fr. Leo also suggested another option of recommending a couple of eligible men from our parish to be ordained as deacons. Since it would be difficult for these men to uproot their families for the 3-year deacon training at seminary, Father would suggest that they look into the alternative OCA Diaconal Vocations Program.

#### VIII. Kudos

Kudos to Fr. John Mefrige for his much appreciated pastoral care and service to St. Anthony while Fr. Leo was out of town.

#### IX. Upcoming Events

- A. The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, September 16, 2018. Jeff went over his draft of the 2019 Proposed Budget with the parish council.
- B. Fr. Leo will serve a Molieben on August 26 following Divine Liturgy for the blessing of the new school year.
- C. Church School classes begin on September 9, the first Sunday after Labor Day.
- D. Next Parish Council Meeting: Wednesday, September 12 at 7:30 pm after Vespers.

#### X. Closing Prayer

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08pm with the singing of It is Truly Meet.

Accepted by:

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Very Rev. Fr. Leo Poore  
Priest

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Felipe Arroyo  
Warden