

St. Vladimir's Orthodox Church

Annual General Meeting Minutes

November 22, 2020

Opening prayer – Fr. David

1. **Quorum** –18 members signed up & were present so that the quorum of 60% was met.

2. **Minutes from last AGM (Jan 26, 2020) written by Leslee Mansour (secretary):**

Leslee Mansour moved to accept the minutes as presented; Braidyn Pollitt seconded; all in favour. Carried.

3. **Financial Report (Oksana Lunyov – treasurer):**

The members present examined the financial statement drawn up by Oksana Lunyov. She was not present (because of the Covid) but submitted a financial report stating that for the year from Sep 1, 2019 to Aug 31, 2020 the opening bank balance was \$12,902.82 on Aug 31. The total income for that period was \$30,238.53 and the total expenses were \$27,674.87. She described the list of expenses as follows: Bank fee: \$63.00; Priest's salary: \$11,600.00; Accounting fees \$402.50; Candles: \$1262.70; New door: \$4581.65; Insurance: \$1,900.00; Archdiocesan tithe: \$3,000.00; Irving Oil Co.: \$2,197; NS Power: \$728.42.

Other expenses: Halifax water, \$49.87; CRA & Remittance; various other things such as repairs, sand & wine, etc., \$4,795.46. As far as the budget for the coming fiscal year, Oksana said that we need to collect a minimum of \$30,000.00 in order to pay all our expenses. The Archdiocesan tithe is to be paid shortly to the Archdiocese as required in the amount of \$3,000. Our 2 BMO investments are valued at \$40,000 plus interest. Fr. David moved to adopt the budget; David Decaire seconded; all were in favour. Carried.

4. **Elections to the parish council:**

Fr. David proposed the following parish council members: David Decaire (President), Yan Tsehtik (Vice-President), Oksana Lunyov (Treasurer), Jessica Dubowezky, Braidyn Pollitt, (Members-at-Large), and Leslee Mansour (Secretary). Colin McInnis is head of the Building Committee & Heather Decaire: Sunday School; Ryan Dubowezky: Choir director & Alina Kirsanova: webmaster. Therese Donovan moved to accept the proposed parish council; Crystal Hyun seconded; all were in favour. Carried.

5. **Report – Fr. David:**

Father David presented a written report. He proceeded to thank each and every member and Fr. Alexander also for all that he/she was doing in our parish. He especially singled out the children as being the future of the parish and of the Church. He mentioned how the Covid pandemic starting March 2020 shut the Church down for several months after a promising beginning.

However in the summer many baptisms took place (Braidyn Pollitt, Evangeline Hyun, Eleanor Pemberton, & Baby Senienkov. There were 2 chrismations (Will and Hugh Pemberton) and we presently have 16 catechumens (Jeff & Krystal, 11 of the Jefferson family, Jeff, Seamus & Carol Ann. Father enjoyed summer liturgies outside with Dave Decaire almost single-handedly doing the setting up. Fr David also completed the first year with us and is now our Rector. Fr. David encouraged everyone to persevere in wearing a mask, washing hands and social distancing in church, otherwise he himself would have to take the blame for those breaking the rules.

6. **Building Committee report – Colin McInnis in charge of the Building Committee**

Colin McInnis is heading the building committee again this year and will continue the repair of the front steps, the front doors and the basement floor, just some of the building issues that need attention.

7. **New Business:** Parishioners regret the departure at the end of Nov 2020 of Crystal and Eric Hyun and thank them for their many and valuable contributions to our church. We hope they will come back often to visit us

8. **Adjournment and closing prayer**

**Minutes of St. Vladimir's Orthodox Church: Parish Council Meeting
Sunday, September 12, 2021.**

[Names of those present: Fr. David, Dave Decaire, Oksana Lunyov, Yan Tsehtik, Braidyn Pollitt, Cameron Taylor, Leslee Mansour]

1. Opening Prayer: Fr. David
2. Reading of Minutes of last Parish Council meeting of March 11, 2021; motion to adopt by Dave; seconded by Braidyn, all in favour. Carried.
3. Financial update: Oksana presented a financial statement for Sept 1, 2020-Aug 31, 2021. On Sept 1, 2020 the bank balance was \$12,898.82 and on Aug 31, 2021 it was 19,508.30. Total revenue received from donations during this period was \$38,213.57. Total expenses were \$31, 604.05. There was a profit of \$6609.48. Oksana remarked that giving had increased.
4. Building maintenance update: because Colin McInnis could not attend, Dave noted that the new floor had been installed on Sept 11, and that the next project to beautify the nave would be to paint the walls. The basement would be next by installing a new floor and ceiling tiles. Dave asked Yan to look into the cost of new ceiling tiles. Oksana mentioned that a new and modern bathroom and kitchen are necessary.
5. Father David's remarks: Fr. David thanked everyone who worked on the new floor and congratulated Cameron Taylor on becoming the new choir director. He stressed the fact that everyone should give money and must be encouraged to do so so that we can have a decent-looking and welcoming church. It is important that everyone try to tithe. Oksana suggested that parishioners could give \$20 from every pay-check. Fr. David mentioned that Yan was to start Sunday School when the pandemic permitted him to gather the children together for activities and teaching.
6. Dave Decaire remarks: Dave would like the parish to pay our priest \$2000/mo as soon as possible, as the current *Archdiocesan Policy on Compensation and Benefits for Clergy* states. This policy states, among other benefits payable to the priest, that the minimum monthly salary for a priest is \$2,000. Parishioners must realize that increased giving is necessary to maintain a priest and a decent-looking church. Dave offered to speak to the parishioners and explain and encourage them to increase giving in order to reach the goal of \$2000/mo salary for the priest. Oksana said it was necessary to begin paying the priest a larger salary in January 2022 if the giving continues to increase from September to December 2021. Dave also suggested publishing a monthly statement of revenue and expenses for parishioners to see and understand the situation. Otherwise, the parish will not be able to attract a full time priest when Fr David retires.
7. Current business and topics of concern to the parish: i) Priest salary increase ii) Renovations and repairs to beautify the church iii) Annual Parish Meeting to take place in the period before Christmas, preferably sooner rather than later, in order for the parish to decide on these matters.
8. Adjournment: Dave moved to adjourn the meeting. All in favour.