



**ORTHODOX
CHURCH in
AMERICA**

Metropolitan Council Meeting

Spring 2015

Other Reports



**Meeting of the Metropolitan Council
February 10 to February 12, 2015
Other Reports**

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**Meeting of the Metropolitan Council
February 10 to February 12, 2015**

Metropolitan Council Agenda

All housing, meals and meeting are at Seminary of the Immaculate Conception located at 440 W. Neck Road, Huntington, NY 11743 (about 15 minutes west of the Chancery) Phone: (631)423-0483.

Monday, February 9

Arrival and Committees

<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>
All Day	Transport	Airports	Chancery Staff

Dinner will be available at 5:30 PM at the Seminary
If any committees would like to meet this evening, they are free to schedule it themselves

Tuesday, February 10

Metropolitan Council

<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>
8:00 AM	Breakfast	IMC	IMC
9:00 AM	Metropolitan Council		
	A. Agenda: Introduction		Fr. John Jillions
	B. Roll Call/Approval of Minutes		Fr. Eric G. Tosi
	C. Welcome		Metropolitan Tikhon
	E. Metropolitan's Report		Metropolitan Tikhon
12:30 PM	Lunch	IMC	IMC
1:30 PM	F. Chancellor's Report - ORSMA - SMPAC		Fr. John Jillions Cindy Heise Dr. Al Rossi
	G. Secretary's Report - Archives Report - IT Report		Fr Eric G. Tosi Alex Liberovsky Ryan Platte
	H. 18th AAC Update - Preconciliar Commission		Fr. Eric G. Tosi

- Proposed Agenda
- Issues

- I. Legal Report E.R.Lanier
- J. Reorganization Committee Fr. John Shimchick

5:30 PM Dinner IMC IMC

Wednesday, February 11
Metropolitan Council

- 7:30 AM Transport to St. Sergius Chapel Chancery
- 8:00 AM Divine Liturgy for All Martyrs of Alaska Metropolitan Tikhon
- 9:30 AM Breakfast Chancery Chancery Staff
- 10:30 AM Transport to IMC Chancery
- 11:00 AM Metropolitan Council IMC
- K. Statute Revision Committee Fr. Alexander Rentel
- L. Report of the Post Conciliar Committee Fr. John Vitko
- M. Metropolitan Council Committees
 - 1. Report of Charity Committee PDN Michael Myers
 - 2. Report of Crisis Management Team Fr. Eric G. Tosi
 - 3. Report of Ethics Committee Dr. Paul Meyendorff
 - 4. Report of Human Resources Fr. David Garretson
 - 5. Report of Internal Governance Fr. Chad Hatfield
- 12:30 PM Lunch IMC IMC
- 1:30 PM Metropolitan Council IMC
- N. Treasurer's Report
- Finance Resolution
- Internal Auditor Reports Melanie Ringa
- O. Report of Financial Development Committee David Yeosock
- P. Report of Finance/Investment Committee Fr. Gleb McFatter

4:00 PM	Q.	Open Discussion		Metropolitan Tikhon
5:30 PM		Dinner	IMC	IMC
7:00 PM	R.	Lesser Synod/Committee		IMC

**Thursday, February 12
Metropolitan Council**

8:00 AM		Breakfast	IMC	IMC
9:00 AM		Metropolitan Council	IMC	
	S.	Pension Board Report		Fr. Gleb McFatter
	T.	Department Report - FOCA - RBO		Becky Tesar Basil Russin
	U.	External Affairs		Fr. Leonid Kishkovsky
	V.	Other Business/Committee Meeting Issues		
	W.	Next Meeting and Date		
12:30 PM		Lunch	IMC	IMC
		Departures		



**MINUTES
of the Joint Meeting of the Lesser Synod
and the 2014 Fall Session of
the Metropolitan Council**

**Tuesday, September 23 – Thursday, September 25, 2014
Immaculate Conception Seminary, Huntington, NY**

These draft minutes are subject to approval at a subsequent meeting of the Metropolitan Council

PARTICIPANTS

LESSER SYNOD

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon
His Eminence, Archbishop Nikon
(*all sessions except Tuesday morning*)

His Eminence, Archbishop Benjamin
His Grace, Bishop Michael

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

CHURCH OFFICERS

Archpriest John Jillions, *Chancellor*
Melanie Ringa, *Treasurer*

Archpriest Eric Tosi, *Secretary*

MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL

Archpriest David Garretson
Archpriest Chad Hatfield

Maureen Jury

DIOCESAN REPRESENTATIVES

Diocese of Alaska
Archpriest John Dunlop

Patrick Pletnikoff

Albanian Archdiocese
Archpriest Joseph Gallick

Bulgarian Diocese
Priest Robert Royer

Protodeacon Michael Myers

Archdiocese of Canada
Archpriest Anatoliy Melnyk

Deacon Justin Mitchell

Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania
Priest James Weremedic

David Yeosock

Diocese of the Midwest

Archpriest Alexander Kuchta

Sam D’Fantis

Diocese of New England

Archpriest Robert Dick

David Zavednak

Diocese of New York/New Jersey

Archpriest John Shimchick (*except Thursday morning*)

Janet Van Duyn

Diocese of the South

Priest Gleb McFatter (*except Tuesday morning*)

Judge E.R. Lanier

Diocese of Washington

Priest John Vitko

Elizabeth Mikhalevsky

Diocese of the West

Archpriest John Dresko

Deacon Antony Dyl

Diocese of Western Pennsylvania

Dr. John Schultz

ABSENT

Archpriest William Evansky (*Diocese of Western Pennsylvania*)

Dr. Paul Meyendorff (*Member elected by the All-American Council*)

William Peters (*Albanian Archdiocese*)

GUESTS (*for all sessions unless otherwise indicated*)

Archpriest Theodore Boback (*Dean of Orthodox Military & VA Chaplains*)

– Wednesday afternoon & Thursday)

Archpriest Leonid Kishkovsky (*Director of External Affairs and Interchurch Relations – Tuesday*)

Archpriest Alexander Rentel (*Secretary, Statute Revision Task Force – Thursday*)

Cindy Davis (*Coordinator for the Office of Review of Sexual Misconduct Allegations – Thursday*)

David Drillock (*Chairman, Department of Liturgical Music and Translations – Thursday*)

Alexis Liberovsky (*recording secretary*)

Dr. Albert S. Rossi (*SMPAC – Thursday*)

Nicholas Rozdelsky (*alternate elected by the All-American Council*)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2014

Following an all-day retreat for the Metropolitan Council on Christian Stewardship conducted by Priest Robert Holet on Monday September 22, 2014, His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon celebrated a prayer service at 9:05 AM on Tuesday morning to open the meeting at the Immaculate Conception Seminary.

A. Agenda: Introduction

The meeting was then called to order. Fr. John Jillions welcomed everyone and indicated a change in the agenda in the transfer of the ORSMA and SMPAC reports to Thursday.

B. Roll Call/Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings (attached)

Fr. Eric Tosi then conducted the roll call and announced guests who would be present at various points during this meeting (see participants list). He requested approval of Alexis Liberovsky as recording secretary for the

meeting, which was accepted without objection. He presented the draft minutes of the previous meeting of the Metropolitan Council on February 4-6, 2014 for approval.

B.1. MOTION LANIER/HATFIELD -- To accept the previous meeting minutes of February 4-6, 2014 as presented. CARRIED with one abstention (Mikhalevsky).

E. Metropolitan's Report

Metropolitan Tikhon welcomed everyone and expressed gratitude for the previous day's fruitful retreat, which he was unable to attend. He noted the falling asleep of former Metropolitan Council members, Dr. Dmitri Solodow and Leda Dzwonczyk. He highlighted his activities since the last Metropolitan Council meeting. He noted that his previous report was in the form of a "Focused Statement of Purpose", which he has since also discussed with the Boards of St. Tikhon's and St. Vladimir's Seminaries, the diocesan chancellors and treasurers at their annual meeting, the clergy of the Archdiocese of Washington, the annual meeting of St. Nicholas Cathedral in Washington, DC, the Mission Focus Group and other gatherings. This discussion has refocused the statement into three main areas: missions and evangelism, clergy health and the strengthening of the Church's institutions, particularly monasteries and seminaries. He reflected on the period since the 2011 All-American Council leading up to next year's All-American Council as one of the most productive in terms of consistency, implementation and follow-up between Councils, which has been accomplished through the Strategic Plan Post-Conciliar Committee and throughout the Church. He thanked both the Statute Revision Task Force and the Office of the Treasurer for efforts to develop a funding system transition from assessments for their hard work in preparation for the upcoming All-American Council next year. He then reflected further on the three aforementioned focus areas. In mission and evangelism, he noted the upcoming establishment through an endowment of the mission school and the work of all OCA departments. Regarding clergy health, he highlighted the new programs facilitated by the Department of Continuing Education and the excellent and professional work of ORSMA, particularly in the prevention of sexual misconduct. Concerning seminaries and monasteries, he noted their crucial significance for the life of the Church and indicated that the Chancellor's recommendation pertaining to seminaries will be deliberated by the Holy Synod and with the seminaries. Regarding monasticism, he spoke of the fruitful first synaxis of monastery superiors that took place in July allowing them to confer on areas of common concern while endeavoring jointly to strengthen the vital presence of monasticism in the Church. He noted that such monastic gatherings would be convened regularly. Touching on administrative matters, he indicated that an annual review of the officers and staff has not yet been done but will be by the end of the year. He expressed profound gratitude for the productive and selfless work of the officers, chancery staff and the members of the Metropolitan Council. Finally, Metropolitan Tikhon reflected on the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America, which was held the previous week. He highlighted the inspiring presentations at the gathering by the Assembly's various agencies, which offer concrete programs and activities that manifest the de facto unity of the Orthodox Churches in the United States. He indicated that Canada now has its own Assembly of Bishops. He spoke of very constructive discussions at the meeting on the means by which this de facto unity might be made more real in terms of the administrative unity for which we are striving. He said that while it is clear that there are strong differences of opinion on whether this administrative unity is even desirable, there is a definite sense that some something must be done to strengthen our cooperation. He referred to two proposals being considered by the Assembly, each being an expansion of a proposal that was presented at last year's Assembly. He further explained that the first proposal envisions a 10-year period of autonomy under the direction, not of one, but of all the Patriarchs and Heads of the Autocephalous Churches, to be concluded with the granting of autocephaly. The second proposal is less specific concerning the overall administrative structure and encourages a more active role of the present Assembly Committees and the concrete alignment of existing departments and organizations of each jurisdiction. The Holy Synod of the OCA made a formal (but preliminary) response to these proposals, noting that each has positive and negative points, but emphasizing that our focus first needs to be on the ultimate goal of this process. In our understanding, this goal can only be a fully functioning local autocephalous Church with a proper Holy Synod, which elects its own primate. Since no conclusion was reached on the validity of either plan presented, it was decided that the Committee on Canonical Regional Planning would continue to review the plans. However, it was also decided that each

jurisdiction would prepare a more formal response to the question within six months for the Committee to consider. While there is and will certainly continue to be hesitation about any kind of movement forward, there was positive response from members of other jurisdictions. Metropolitan Tikhon indicated his intention to follow up on the Holy Synod's preliminary response by drafting a more detailed proposal for possible canonical restructuring based on an end goal of autocephaly. This draft will be sent to a number of OCA clergy and laity who have expertise in those areas where more details might need to be fleshed out (canonical/historical, pastoral, practical). In concluding his report, Metropolitan Tikhon said that it is important for us, as the OCA, to continue humbly to present our vision of a local Church here in North America. To do this, we must continue our present course with faith, hope and love and place our energies into developing and enhancing the great work that is already being done throughout the Orthodox Church in America. An extensive discussion by the Metropolitan Council concerning the Assembly of Bishops and related issues then ensued.

Following a short recess at 11:24 AM, the session resumed at 11:45 AM.

F. Chancellor's Report (attached)

Archpriest John Jillions, Chancellor, presented his oral report, noting that his proposal in the report concerning theological education is being referred to the Holy Synod for further deliberation. He additionally suggested that Metropolitan Tikhon's workload requires the eventual appointment of an auxiliary bishop, noting that 110 clergy are under the direct archpastoral supervision of the Metropolitan.

I. External Affairs Report

Fr. Leonid Kishkovsky, Director of External Affairs and Interchurch Relations, delivered an oral report highlighting a variety of significant issues and events, particularly the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America and the *Preliminary Response of the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America to the Proposals for Canonical Restructuring*, recent events in other Orthodox Churches, Orthodox relations with non-Orthodox religious bodies, recent happenings in ecumenical organizations, as well contacts with various governmental organizations and personalities. He particularly highlighted recent positive contacts with the Ecumenical Patriarchate, the Church of Albania and the Church in Ukraine. Extensive discussion ensued

Following a recess for lunch at 12:30 PM, the afternoon session was called to order at 1:34 PM

Wide-ranging discussion of various issues pertaining to External Affairs and Interchurch Relations continued.

J. Legal matters (attached)

Judge Lanier, Chairman of the Legal Committee, presented its attached report.

J.1. MOTION DRESKO/GALLICK – To move into executive session. CARRIED.

Confidential details pertaining to personnel and pending legal matters were discussed in executive session.

J.2. MOTION GALLICK/JURY – To move out of executive session. CARRIED.

Following a short recess at 3:19 PM, the session resumed at 3:41 PM.

G. Secretary's report (attached)

Archpriest Eric Tosi, OCA Secretary, summarized his attached written report, particularly highlighting work on database rebuilding on the chancery's computer system, the work of the staff, the projected publication of

The Orthodox Church magazine as an annual review, preparation of new metrical books and ongoing maintenance of the chancery building. The possibility of electronic metrical recordkeeping was discussed. He presented the attached mission planting grant recommendations for funding in the coming year submitted by Fr. John Parker from the Department of Evangelization, including three communities continuing in the program (Annapolis, MD, Lansing, NY, Cardiff, CA) and two new communities (Tempe, AZ, Beaufort, SC).

G.1. MOTION WEREMEDIC/VAN DUYN – To approve funding for planting grants in 2015 as presented totaling \$102,000. CARRIED.

Fr. Tosi summarized the attached proposal and progress of plans for the Mission School. He noted that the curriculum, which has been nearly completed, would be practical rather than theoretical. The School is projected to begin functioning in the spring and its sessions will take place in various locations throughout the country. During discussion of the proposal, he noted that students would be both clergy and laity enrolled with the blessing of their diocesan bishops.

Fr. Tosi then presented for approval the attached *Draft Record Retention and Electronic Policy for the Chancery of the Orthodox Church in America*, along with two appendices, which are included for informational purposes only and are not to be considered part of the Policy. He requested approval of the document with the understanding that these policies will be evolving.

G.2. MOTION MIKHALEVSKY/MYERS – To approve the Record Retention and Electronic Policy for the Chancery of the Orthodox Church in America as presented. CARRIED.

G.3. Archives Advisory Committee (attached)

Fr. Tosi introduced Alexis Liberovsky, OCA Archivist, who presented the attached report from the Archives Advisory Committee. He provided additional updates resulting from the Committee's conference call meeting the previous week which decided to proceed with hiring a consultant to evaluate current environmental security in the OCA archives, suggest possible renovations of existing facilities, and appropriate data monitoring of environmental conditions, approved an upcoming preliminary meeting with an architect specialized in museum, library and other construction, and reviewed a draft *OCA Archives collection development and management and deaccessioning policy*,

H. 18th All-American Council (attached)

Fr. Tosi delivered the attached PowerPoint presentation outlining preparations for the 18th All-American Council as well as a draft agenda and noted that organization and arrangements are proceeding smoothly. Extensive discussion took place on various issues pertaining to the 18th All-American Council. Many questions were asked concerning the projected revision of the OCA Statute. Further discussion of this issue was deferred to the presentation of the Statute Revision Task Force report on Thursday.

The session was adjourned with prayer at 5:35 PM

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2014

Following the celebration of a Divine Liturgy at Saint Sergius Chapel at 8:00 AM, the meeting was opened with prayer led by His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon at the Immaculate Conception Seminary at 10:58 AM.

K. Strategic Plan Post-Conciliar Committee (attached)

Fr. John Vitko highlighted his attached report with a PowerPoint presentation. He particularly noted ongoing progress in continuing education programs throughout the Church and parish revitalization initiatives. In

discussion that ensued, he stated that ongoing strategic planning makes sense for the Church as long as it does not replace the Gospel. Our current initiative is more of an activity plan than a strategic plan and its spiritual dimension must be maintained. He reaffirmed that the committee will be phased out at the 18th All-American Council and indicated that many of its activities have transitioned into the normal life of the Church

L. Metropolitan Council Committees

L.1. Charity (attached)

Protodeacon Michael Myers presented the Charity Committee's attached written report. He noted that the committee needs new members. He indicated that more charity funding is needed that would enable the OCA to assist needy clergy among many other worthwhile causes. He suggested that a new page be created on the OCA website to promote more contributions for charities. Discussion ensued.

L.1.A. MOTION MYERS/JURY – That a page be created on the OCA website to provide information on how to donate to the OCA Charity Fund. CARRIED.

L.2. Crisis Management Team

Fr. Eric Tosi presented an oral report regarding the work of the Crisis Management Team. He noted the sensitive nature of its activities and the key role played by Bernard Wilson. He indicated that the team works in concert with the Holy Synod through its Episcopal moderator and the Legal Committee through Judge Lanier. Official statements are carefully crafted and in some cases, it is decided that no statement should be made. He also noted that crisis management training with Bernie Wilson has yet to take place. Responses to questions from the press are issued in writing only to avoid any inconsistencies in official statements. In discussion, it was noted that a definition of crisis was needed along with the development of contingency plans. It was suggested that a generator be acquired for the OCA chancery.

L.3. Ethics

On behalf of Dr. Paul Meyendorff, Committee Chairman, who was absent from this meeting, Fr. Tosi stated that the Ethics Committee has nothing to report at this time.

L.4. Human Resources

Fr. David Garretson presented an oral report, noting that a search for a part-time administrative assistant for stewardship will be taking place. A motion on this matter was tabled until the Treasurer's report. He noted that the Committee would be undertaking revision of the Human Resources and Employee handbooks for the OCA chancery.

L.5. Internal Governance (attached)

Archpriest Chad Hatfield highlighted the committee's attached report. He requested suggestions of topics for future Metropolitan Council retreats, indicating missions and evangelism as a possible subject. He also requested suggestions of people with appropriate professional qualifications to serve on the Audit Committee. He reported that the Metropolitan Council Members Handbook would be revised after Statute revisions are enacted. The need for further clarification of organizational charts for staff and departments was discussed. Various other issues pertaining to OCA governance and structure were extensively deliberated. Melanie Ringa requested the Committee to conduct a search for a new external auditor for the Church.

Following a recess for lunch at 12:33 PM, the afternoon session was called to order at 1:38 PM.

M. Treasurer's Report (attached)

Melanie Ringa highlighted the attached Treasurer's report, with a PowerPoint presentation. The report included the external Audit Reports for 2012 and 2013, 2014 financial statements and the preliminary 2015 budget. She indicated a lower net deficit for 2013 than originally projected of \$54,791. She noted a current operating surplus of \$160,000 due to expenditures under budget.

O. 2015 Budget (attached)

Fr. Gleb McFatter, chairman of the Finance/Investment Committee, and Melanie Ringa presented the proposed balanced budget for 2015. It was noted that the per capita assessment has been lowered from \$92 in 2014 to \$90 for 2015. Fr. John Dresko presented information on the new proportional funding system in lieu of assessments proposed in the Diocese in the West. Discussion and questions on the budget and related issues ensued.

O.1. MOTION WEREMEDIC/DYL - To approve the proposed budget for 2015 as presented. CARRIED.

Melanie Ringa reported a recommendation of the Investment Committee to move OCA endowment investments from the Honesdale National Bank and Wells Fargo Bank to the Philadelphia Trust Company. Discussion and questions ensued.

O.2. MOTION HATFIELD/VAN DUYN – To move the investment portfolio of the Orthodox Church in America from the Honesdale National Bank and Wells Fargo Bank to the Philadelphia Trust Company. CARRIED with two abstentions (Lanier, Vitko).

Fr. David Garretson proposed the following resolution of thanks.

O.3. MOTION GARRETSON/GALLICK – To thank Melanie Ringa, the internal and external auditors, and the Finance Committee for their stewardship in bringing the finances of the Orthodox Church in America to a positive cash flow. CARRIED.

N. Financial Development (attached)

David Yeosock, Chairman of the Financial Development Committee, presented its attached report. He noted the value of the stewardship retreat that took place before this meeting. Discussion of the report ensued.

T. Other Business

Upon a suggestion by Fr. John Jillions, a wide-ranging discussion on clergy health issues took place.

L. Metropolitan Council Committees (continued)

L.1. Charity (continued)

Protodeacon Michael Myers suggested that the current qualifications required to serve on the Charity Committee are too stringent.

L.1.B. MOTION MYERS/DRESKO – That members of the Charity Committee have prior experience in or be willing to undergo training in Best Practices for not-for-profit boards. CARRIED.

The session was adjourned with prayer at 3:24 PM and was followed by committee meetings.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2014

The morning session was opened with prayer at 9:10 AM.

S. Department Reports

S.1. Military Chaplains (attached)

Archpriests Theodore Boback, Dean and Executive Director of Orthodox Military and VA Chaplains, and Joseph Gallick, Assistant Dean and Deputy Director, presented the attached report. Fr. Boback also briefly outlined the history of the Military Chaplaincy. He thanked Metropolitan Tikhon for his participation in meetings of endorser's conferences. He noted the need for new liturgical items for chaplains as well as icons and publications for distribution in the military and that an Orthodox chaplaincy website is being planned. He highlighted connections with chaplains from other Orthodox Churches throughout the world. Fr. Gallick provided additional specifics on the ministry of chaplains. He appealed for qualified priests to become chaplains. Fr. Boback thanked the Church for its support for chaplaincies and the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America (FOCA) for aid it has provided in various ways over many years. Discussion ensued

P. Statute Revision Task Force (attached)

Archpriest Alexander Rentel, Secretary of the Statute Revision Task Force, presented its attached report. He also distributed some samples of Statute articles drafted by the Task Force. Extensive discussion took place. It was indicated that completed articles drafted by the Task Force would be posted online in January to provide sufficient time for comments by clergy and faithful.

P.1. MOTION - GARRETSON/WEREMEDIC – That all completed articles drafted by the Task Force and approved by the Holy Synod be submitted to the Metropolitan Council for its review by December 1, 2014. DEFEATED (16 votes opposed, 10 in favor, 3 abstentions).

U. Future Meeting Dates

Fr. Tosi proposed that the Metropolitan Council meetings in 2015 take place on February 10-12 and September 22-24, with a possible retreat on September 21. These dates were approved by consensus.

Following a short recess at 10:36 AM, the session resumed at 10:51 AM.

F.1. ORSMA

Cindy Davis delivered her report outlining the activities of the Office of Review of Sexual Misconduct Allegations (ORSMA). She outlined case statistics, coordinator activities, communication issues as well as policy and procedure matters. She highlighted her presentation at the Diocese of the South Assembly where there was particular concern about background checks. She noted the productive cooperation of ORSMA and SMPAC. She projected future education efforts on the OCA Policies, Standards and Procedures (PSPs) and sexual misconduct prevention. Questions and discussion ensued, particularly concerning

Q. SMPAC (attached)

Dr. Albert S. Rossi presented the attached written report from the Sexual Misconduct Policy Advisory Committee (SMPAC). Discussion and questions ensued.

R. Pension Board Report

Fr. Gleb McFatter delivered a brief oral report. He reported that the OCA Pension Plan investment return for the past year was 22.71% and that because of the recent change to higher employer contributions a year has been gained towards the full funding of the OCA Pension Plan now projected by 2025. There has been a net gain of two participants in the Plan during the last year.

S. Department Reports (continued)

S.2. Liturgical Music and Translations (attached)

Mr. David Drillock highlighted the attached report from the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations. In conclusion, he noted the importance of choir directors and singers in our liturgical tradition and the need for their proper training. Although the department functions on a small annual budget of \$18,000, the crucial issue for the department is not additional funding but qualified people to accomplish its work.

T. Other Business (continued)

Fr. John Jillions reported that after two years in Moscow, Archimandrite Alexander (Pihach), OCA Representative in Moscow, has obtained a Russian work visa enabling him to have legal signing authority in the administration of the OCA Representation Church in Moscow.

Fr. Eric Tosi provided clarification concerning expenditures of Metropolitan Council members to attend the All-American Council. The expenditures of those members elected by the All-American Council are funded by the OCA, while diocesan representatives are funded by their respective dioceses.

V. Adjournment

T.1. MOTION PLETNIKOFF – To adjourn the meeting. CARRIED.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 12:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexis Liberovsky,
Recording Secretary

Draft Agenda for 18th All-American Council (July 20-24, 2015)

Day 1, Pre-council - Friday, July 17, 2015

Time	Staff	Council	FOCA	Youth
All Day	Arrival		Pre-arrival/Registration	Pre-Arrival
Morning				
Afternoon				
4:00 PM	Meet with Hotel			
6:30 PM	Executive Committee Meets			

Notes: 25 rooms reserved, 3 meeting rooms open
 Possible to get into main ballroom earlier?

Day 2, Pre-council - Saturday, July 18, 2015

Time	Staff	Council	FOCA	Youth
All Day	Metropolitan Arrival Holy Synod Arrival Seminarians Arrival	Possible Delegate Arrival	Delegate Arrival	Workers Arrival
8:00 AM – 1:00 PM			FOCA Golf Outing	
10:00 AM			FOCA Outing	
12:00 PM	Seminarian Volunteer Lunch			
3:00 PM	Meet with Hotel		FOCA Registration	
4:00 PM		Greeting of Metropolitan		
4:30 PM		Choir Rehearsal	FOCA Board Meeting	
5:00 PM – 8:00 PM			Registration	
6:00 PM		Transport to Cathedral		
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM		Great Vespers/Reception		
7:00 PM	Chapel set-up Move-In/Set-Up Exhibits Set-Up			Rooms Set-up
8:00 PM			FOCA Welcome Reception Youth Event	
9:00 PM – 11:00 PM		Confessions Prayer Room Friends of Bill W		

Notes: 150 rooms reserved, all meeting rooms open
 Transport to GOA Cathedral for Vespers
 Possible to get into main ballroom earlier?
 Exhibits can arrive and set-up

Day 3, Pre-council - Sunday, July 19, 2015

Time	Staff	Council	FOCA	Youth
All Day	Rooms set-up PCC Arrival Move in/Set up Exhibits Set up	Delegate Arrival Prayer Room Friends of Bill W	Delegate Arrival	Youth Arrival
8:00 AM		Clergy Vesting		
9:00 AM		Hierarchical Liturgy		
12:30 PM	Synod Lunch/Meeting			
1:00 PM	Secretarial Room open		Baba's Auction/Sales	Youth Office open
2:00 PM	Committee meeting	Registration open to 10 PM	FOCA Registration open	
2:30 PM	Synod Outing TBD			
4:00 PM – 5:30 PM				Parent Meeting with Youth Committee
5:00 PM				Youth Staff Meeting
6:00 PM	Synod to Dinner Dance		FOCA Dinner Dance	Youth Meet and Greet pizza party by pool
8:00 PM				Late Arrival Youth Staff Meeting Youth go to Dinner Dance
11:00 PM				Youth Compline
Evening	PCC Meeting Statute Committee Resolutions Committee			

Notes: 500 rooms reserved
All set-up done
Exhibits can arrive and set-up

Day 4, Council – Monday, July 20, 2015

Time	Staff	Council	FOCA	Youth
All Day		Delegate Arrival Friends of Bill W	Delegate Arrival	Youth Arrival
9:00 AM	Registration Open Exhibits Open Secretarial Room Open	Bulg Assembly DoMW Assembly DoS Assembly DoW Assembly	FOCA Adult Outing FOCA Plenary Session I	Pre K to 2 nd Grade VBS (9 AM-12 PM) Youth Program Opens Youth Outing (until 4:00 PM)
1:00 PM	Synod Lunch			Pre K – 2 nd Grade Playgroup (1 PM – 4 PM)
1:30 PM – 4:30 PM		Symposiums: DVP: Parish Deacon RBO: Insuring Future OCPM: Prison Ministry Pension Plan OCMC: Work of OCMC	FOCA Plenary Session II	
4:30 PM	Committee Meetings Pension Board PCC			
5:30 PM		Vespers		
6:00 PM		Synod/MC Dinner and Meeting		
7:30 PM – 10:00 PM		Plenary Session 1 -Molieben - Welcome - Organization -Metropolitan Address -Chancellor Report -Secretary Report		Movie Night
11:00 PM				Youth Compline

Notes: Possible Movie shown before Metropolitan's Address

Day 5, Council - Tuesday, July 21, 2015

Time	Staff	Council	Youth
All Day		Friends of Bill W	
7:30 AM		Akathist (Sitka)	
8:00 AM		Clergy Wife Breakfast	
9:00 AM	Exhibits Secretarial Room		Religious Ed/play group (9 AM – 12:30 PM)
9:30 AM – 12:30 PM		Plenary Session 2 Opening Prayer Alaska Report Albanian Report Bulgarian Report Treasurer Report Auditors Report Finance Proposal Resolutions	
12:30 PM – 1:30 PM	Holy Synod Lunch		
1:30 PM – 4:30 PM		Plenary Session 3 Opening Prayer Canada Report E. Penn Report Mexico Report Met Council Report Statute Revision Report Resolutions	Youth Outing
5:00 PM		Vespers	
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Holy Synod Dinner/Meeting		
7:00 PM	Committee Meetings		
8:00 PM – 10:00 PM		Joint Seminary Reception	Teen Crash Room
11:00 PM			Youth Compline

Day 6, Council - Wednesday, July 22, 2015

Time	Staff	Council	Youth
All Day		Friends of Bill W	
7:30 AM		Akathist (St Anne)	
8:00 AM	Holy Synod Breakfast		
9:00 AM	Exhibits Secretarial Room		Religious Ed/play group (9 AM – 12:30 PM)
9:30 AM – 12:30 PM		Plenary Session 4 Opening Prayer Midwest Report New England Report NYNJ Report Military Chap Report Institut Chap Report Departments Report Resolutions	
12:30 PM – 1:30 PM	Holy Synod Lunch		
1:30 PM – 4:30 PM		Workshops 1 35 Ideas for Mission Youth on Campus Protecting Youth Matthew 25 Visible on Web Vibrant Parishes Clergy Self Help Raising Orthodox Youth Mission Possible	Youth Outing
5:00 PM		Vespers	
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Holy Synod Dinner/Meeting		
7:00 PM	Committee Meetings	Confessions	
8:00 PM – 10:00 PM		Stewards of the OCA Reception	Teen Crash Room
11:00 PM			Youth Compline

Day 7, Council - Thursday, July 23, 2015

Time	Staff	Council	Youth
All Day		Friends of Bill W	
6:30 AM	Vesting		
7:00 AM		Hierarchical Liturgy	
9:00 AM	Holy Synod Breakfast with Youth		
9:00 AM	Exhibits Secretarial Room		Religious Ed/play group (9 AM – 12:30 PM)
10:00 AM – 12:30 PM		Plenary Session 5 Opening Prayer Elections Romanian Report South Report DC Report Mission School Report Assembly Bishops Report Krindatch Report Resolutions	
12:30 PM – 1:30 PM	Holy Synod Lunch		
1:30 PM – 4:30 PM		Workshops 2 35 Ideas for Mission Youth on Campus Protecting Youth Matthew 25 Visible on Web Vibrant Parishes Clergy Self Help Raising Orthodox Youth Mission Possible	Youth Outing
6:30 PM		Reception	
7:00 PM	Exhibit Tear Down		
7:30 PM – 10:00 PM		Formal Dinner	Offsite Party (Lake Lanier)
10:00 PM			Youth Compline

Day 8, Council - Friday, July 24, 2015

Time	Staff	Council	Youth
All Day		Friends of Bill W	
7:30 AM		Akathist (All Saints of North America)	
8:00 AM	Holy Synod Breakfast		
8:00 AM	Breakdown of exhibit rooms		Breakdown
9:00 AM			Religious Ed/play group (9 AM – 12:30 PM)
9:30 AM – 12:30 PM		Plenary Session 6 Opening Prayer Installation of MC West Report West Penn Report Monastery Report Seminary Report Youth Presentation Open Discussion Final Resolutions Closing Prayer	Youth Presentation to the All American Council
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	Holy Synod & Metropolitan Council Lunch		
2:00 PM	Breakdown and departure		

18th All-American Council

Plenary Session 1

Monday, July 20: 7:30 PM – 10:00 PM

- Scanners must be ready at door 15 minutes prior
- Molioben Book needs to be ready. Table set for Molioben, Choir ready.
- Powerpoint 1 needs to be ready
- Clergy and Lay Chair in place
- Parliamentarian at his place
- Secretariat at place ready to take notes

Order	Time	Event	Person	Action	Reference
1.	10 min	Opening Molioben	Metropolitan Tikhon/Archdeacon Kirill	Service	Service book in packet Slides
2.	5 min	Call to order	Metropolitan Tikhon	Must declare Council opened and appoint chairs	See sheet in packet Slides
3.	10 min	Appointment of Organizational Teams	Fr. Eric	Need approval by AAC	See organizational team list. Slides
4.	10 min	Acceptance of Agenda	Fr. Eric	May need discussion	Posted Agenda Slides
5.	10 min	PCC Bishop Welcome	Bishop Mark		Slides
6.	10 min	Local Committee Welcome	Fr. Alexander Fecanin, Barbara Massoudi and Michaela Stasiewicz		Slides
7.	30 min	Metropolitan's Address	Metropolitan Tikhon		Slides
8.	20 min	Questions from AAC to His Beatitude	Metropolitan Tikhon		Slides
9.	10 min with 5	Chancellor Report	Fr. John		Slides

	min answer questions				
10.	10 min with 5 min answer questions	Secretary Report	Fr. Eric		Slides
11.	5 min	Housekeeping	Fr Eric	Need to call for meeting of council teams after close session.	Slides
12.	2 hour 25 min	Close Session	Chairs	recessional	

18th All-American Council

Plenary Session 2

Tuesday, July 21: 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

- Scanners must be ready at door 15 minutes prior
- Powerpoint 2 needs to be ready
- Clergy and Lay Chair in place
- Parliamentarian at his place
- Secretariat at place ready to take notes

Order	Time	Event	Person	Action	Reference
1.	5 min	Opening	Chairs	Possible Prayer/Reflection	
2.	10 min	Resolution Procedures	Resolutions Chair	Explain how resolutions can be submitted and will happen from floor	Instruction sheet
3.	10 min	Nominations Procedures	Nominations Chair	Explain how nominations for Thursday for MC and Pension	Instruction Sheet
4.	10 min	Diocese of Alaska Presentation	Bishop David	Coordinate with Diocese	Slides
5.	10 min	Albanian Archdiocese Presentation	Archbishop Nikon	Coordinate with Diocese	Slides
6.	10 min	Bulgarian Diocese Presentation	Bishop Alexander	Coordinate with Diocese	Slides
7.	15 min	Treasurer's Report	Melanie Ringa		Slides
8.	10 min	Internal Auditors Report	Michael Strelka		Slides
8.	60 min	Finance Resolution	Melanie Ringa and others		Slides
9.	15 min	Resolutions	Resolutions Chair	Previously submitted	Slides
10.	5 min	Housekeeping	Fr Eric		Slides
11.	2 hour 40 min	Close Session	Chairs	recessional	

18th All-American Council

Plenary Session 3

Tuesday, July 21: 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

- Scanners must be ready at door 15 minutes prior
- Powerpoint 3 needs to be ready
- Clergy and Lay Chair in place
- Parliamentarian at his place
- Secretariat at place ready to take notes

Order	Time	Event	Person	Action	Reference
1.	5 min	Opening	Chairs	Possible Prayer/Reflection	
2.	10 min	Archdiocese of Canada Presentation	Bishop Irenee	Coordinate with Diocese	Slides
3.	10 min	Diocese of Eastern Penn Presentation	Bishop Mark	Coordinate with Diocese	Slides
4.	10 min	Diocese of Mexico	Archbishop Alejo	Coordinate with Diocese	Slides
5.	20 min	Metropolitan Council Report	At-Large MC Members		Slides
6.	90 min	Statute Revision Presentation	Statute Revision Committee		Slides
7.	20 min	Resolutions	Resolutions Chair	Previously submitted	Slides
8.	5 min	Housekeeping	Fr Eric		Slides
9.	2 hour 40 min	Close Session	Chairs	recessional	

18th All-American Council

Plenary Session 4

Wednesday, July 22: 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

- Scanners must be ready at door 15 minutes prior
- Powerpoint 4 needs to be ready
- Clergy and Lay Chair in place
- Parliamentarian at his place
- Secretariat at place ready to take notes

Order	Time	Event	Person	Action	Reference
1.	5 min	Opening	Chairs	Possible Prayer/Reflection	
2.	10 min	Diocese of Midwest Presentation	Bishop Paul	Coordinate with Diocese	Slides
3.	10 min	Diocese of New England Presentation	Archbishop Nikon	Coordinate with Diocese	Slides
4.	10 min	Diocese of New York & New Jersey Presentation	Bishop Michael	Coordinate with Diocese	Slides
5.	10 min	External Affairs Report	Fr. Leonid Kishkovsky		Slides
6.	10 min	Military Chaplains Report	Fr. Ted Boback & Fr. Joseph Gallick		Slides
7.	10 min	Institutional Chaplains Report	Fr. Steven Voytovich		Slides
8.	60 min	Department Reports	All Dpt Chairs	Each has 10 minutes apiece	Slides
9.	20 min	Resolutions	Resolutions Chair	Previously submitted	Slides
10.	5 min	Housekeeping	Fr Eric		Slides
11.	3 hour 0 min	Close Session	Chairs	recessional	

18th All-American Council

Plenary Session 5

Thursday, July 23: 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

- Scanners must be ready at door 15 minutes prior
- Powerpoint 5 needs to be ready
- Clergy and Lay Chair in place
- Parliamentarian at his place
- Secretariat at place ready to take notes

Order	Time	Event	Person	Action	Reference
1.	5 min	Opening	Chairs	Possible Prayer/Reflection	
2.	20 min	Election	Election Chair	Met Council and Pension	Session continues while ballots counted
3.	10 min	Romanian Episcopate Presentation	Archbishop Nathaniel	Coordinate with Diocese	Slides
4.	10 min	Diocese of South Presentation	Archbishop Nikon	Coordinate with Diocese	Slides
5.	10 min	Diocese of Washington DC Presentation	Metropolitan Tikhon	Coordinate with Diocese	Slides
6.	10 min	Mission School	Fr. Eric Tosi		Slides
7.	20 min	Assembly of Bishops Report	PDN Danilchick		Slides
8.	30 min	Orthodoxy in America	Alexei Krindatch		Slides
9.	5 min	Results of election	Election Chair		
10.	20 min	Resolutions	Resolutions Chair	Previously submitted	Slides
11.	5 min	Housekeeping	Fr Eric		Slides
12.	2 hour 25 min	Close Session	Chairs	recessional	

18th All-American Council

Plenary Session 6

Friday, July 24: 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

- Scanners must be ready at door 15 minutes prior
- Powerpoint 6 needs to be ready
- Clergy and Lay Chair in place
- Parliamentarian at his place
- Secretariat at place ready to take notes

Order	Time	Event	Person	Action	Reference
1.	5 min	Opening	Chairs	Possible Prayer/Reflection	
2.	10 min	Installation of new MC	Metropolitan Tikhon		Prayer
3.	10 min	Diocese of the West Presentation	Archbishop Benjamin	Coordinate with Diocese	Slides
4.	10 min	Diocese of West Penn Presentation	Archbishop Melchisedek	Coordinate with Diocese	Slides
5.	20 min	Monastic Life Report	TBD		Slides
6.	30 min	Seminary Report	Deans	10 minutes per seminary	Slides
7.	20 min	Youth Presentation	Fr. Benjamin Tucci		Slides
8.	50 min	Open Discussion & Initiatives	Metropolitan Tikhon		Slides
9.	20 min	Final Resolutions	Resolutions Chair		Slides
19.	10 min	Closing Molieben	Fr Eric		Slides
10.	3 hour 0 min	Close Session	Chairs	recessional	

**Summary of Membership and Work of
the Office of External Affairs and Inter-Church Relations
Prepared for the Spring 2015 Metropolitan Council Meeting
Protopresbyter Leonid Kishkovsky**

**Orthodox Church in America
Summary of Memberships
February 2015**

Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in the United States

Secretariat

PDN Peter Danilchik

Canonical Affairs

Fr. John Erickson

Fr. Alexander Rentel

Canonical Regional Planning

Metropolitan Tikhon

Church and Society

Fr. John Breck

Clergy Matters

Fr. Eric G. Tosi

Fr. Ian Pac-Urar

Ecumenical Relations

Archbishop Melchisedek

Fr. Thomas Hopko

Fr. Leonid Kishkovsky

Financial Affairs

PDN Peter Danilchik

Matushka Mary Buletza-Breton

Legal Affairs

Judge E.R. Lanier

Thaddeus Wojcik

Liturgy

Archbishop Benjamin

Fr. Paul Lazor

Dr. Paul Meyendorff

Military Chaplaincy

Archbishop Nikon

Fr. Theodore Boback

Fr. Jerome Cwiklinski

Monastic Communities

Metropolitan Tikhon

Mother Gabriella

Pastoral Practice

Bishop Mark

Fr. John Jillions

Fr. Ian Pac-Urar

Theological Education

Bishop Michael

Bishop Alexander

PDN Peter Danilchik

Fr. John Behr

Fr. Chad Hatfield

Fr. Steven Voytovich

Youth

Bishop Ireneu

PDN Joseph Matusiak

Andrew Boyd

Michael Pacurar

International Orthodox Christian Charities

Relief and Development agency endorsed by the Assembly of Bishops (previously by the Standing Conference of Canonical Orthodox Bishops.) The Orthodox Church in America, together with the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese and the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, was instrumental in the creation of this pan-Orthodox agency. Significant work has been done by IOCC in Russia, Bosnia, Serbia, Ethiopia, Syria and Lebanon, Israel and Palestine. Domestic disaster-response has been done in the US. Through partnerships with other relief and development agencies IOCC has responded to natural disasters in Asia and other regions. IOCC headquarters is in Baltimore, Maryland. Fr. Leonid Kishkovsky is the OCA member of the Board of Directors, and chair of IOCC's Church Relations Committee.

Orthodox Christian Mission Center

Mission and Evangelism agency endorsed by the Assembly of Bishops (previously by the SCOBA). OCMC has sent mission teams around the world and has supported mission and evangelism work by the local Orthodox churches. OCMC headquarters is located in St. Augustine, Florida. Orthodox Church America members of the Board of Directors are Frs. Matthew Tate, John Parker, Ted Pisarchuk, and Mrs. Elizabeth Slanta.

North American Orthodox – Catholic Theological Consultation

This fruitful theological consultation continues to meet two times a year, building on the record of dialogue and consultation over several decades – in 2015 the consultation will celebrate its 50th year, making it the longest uninterrupted ecumenical dialogue. Representing the OCA are Bishop Alexander of Toledo, Fr. John Erickson, and Dr. Paul Meyendorff.

St. Irenaeus Orthodox-Catholic Working Group

This is an informal international dialogue - now beginning its second decade. Dr. Paul Meyendorff participates by invitation.

Consultation with the Anglican Church of North America

This dialogue is exploratory – with the blessing of the Holy Synod of the OCA the goal is to identify areas of theological agreement and disagreement on the road to understanding one another better. There is no predicting where this consultation will lead. The OCA participants are Archbishop Melchisedek, Frs. Leonid Kishkovsky, Chad Hatfield, John Pierce, and John Parker.

Lausanne Orthodox Initiative

The Lausanne Movement, a network of evangelicals, has committed to dialogue with the Orthodox Churches. Participation in a series of consultations is by invitation. In 2013 the first consultation was held in Albania, hosted by His Beatitude Archbishop Anastasios at St. Vlash Monastery. Fr. Leonid Kishkovsky attended to present a paper. In 2014 the second consultation was held – once again in Albania. Fr. Eric Tosi presented a paper. In 2015 the third consultation will be held in Helsinki. Both Frs. Leonid Kishkovsky and Eric Tosi have been invited.

Working Group on Orthodox Theological Education

An international and inter-Orthodox working to bring coherence to theological education curricula in light of Europe-wide standards. This is particularly important for theological schools in former communist societies, where state accreditation for theological schools has not been secured. The St. Vladimir's experience in strategic planning and curriculum development has drawn particular interest. Dr. Paul Meyendorff represents both the OCA and SVS in this process.

March for Life

OCA bishops, led by the primate, together with OCA clergy and laity, have been instrumental in bringing the Orthodox Christian voice and presence to the annual March for Life in Washington, DC. In the course of many years the Primate of the OCA has given the Orthodox prayer at the big public event. In 2014 and 2015 the Assembly of Canonical Bishops has become the Orthodox profile at the public event of the March for Life, with Greek Orthodox hierarchs speaking on behalf of the Assembly. The OCA participation is nevertheless key to the Orthodox involvement in the March for Life. Over the years Fr. John Kowalczyk has been the standard-bearer in ensuring Orthodox inclusion in the organization of the March for Life.

Ecumenical

World Council of Churches

Global ecumenical organization in which all Orthodox Churches (with the exception of Georgia and Bulgaria) participate as members. Bishop Alexander of Toledo is the OCA member of the Central Committee. Dr. Paul Meyendorff is member of Faith and Order.

National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA (NCC)

National ecumenical organization in which the key Eastern Orthodox member churches are the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese and the Orthodox Church in America. The Oriental Orthodox Churches participating in the NCC are the Armenian Church, the Syriac Orthodox Church of Antioch, and the Coptic Orthodox Church. Fr. Leonid Kishkovsky serves on the governing bodies (Executive Committee and Governing Board), having served as the first Orthodox President of the NCC in the early 1990s. PDN Serge Kapral from time to time is OCA representative at NCC meetings.

Christian Churches Together in the USA (CCT)

National Christian forum organized along the lines of "families" – 1) Eastern and Oriental Orthodox; 2) Catholic; 3) African American; 4) Historic Protestant; 5) Pentecostal and Evangelical. All the major Christian streams in the US are represented, making this the most inclusive Christian forum in the US. Fr. Leonid Kishkovsky served as Orthodox President (each of the five families elects a President) and as Moderator of the Steering Committee for several years. After rotating off the Steering Committee as the rules require, Fr. Kishkovsky has been asked to return to the Steering Committee. PDN Serge Kapral from time to time represents the OCA.

Interfaith

Religions for Peace (formerly called World Conference of Religions for Peace)

Global interfaith organization and network for promoting peace and peace-making. Played a constructive role in several conflict regions in the Balkans, Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. Fr. Kishkovsky was elected Vice Moderator at the 1999 Assembly in Amman, and Moderator at the 2006 Assembly in Kyoto. After concluding his term as Moderator in 2013, he was elected Honorary President.

Religions for Peace USA

The Religions for Peace network in the USA, offering a forum for interfaith conversations and dialogues in American society. Fr. Kishkovsky served a Moderator of Religions for Peace for some ten years, and currently is a member of the large group of Presidents.

Appeal of Conscience

An interfaith foundation created and led by Rabbi Arthur Schneier of New York. The organization played a useful role in relations with religious communities in communist societies, and in their relations with their respective governments. During the war in Bosnia visits by the Appeal to Belgrade, Zagreb, Sarajevo, and Pristina attempted to bring political and religious leaders to the table to bring violence to an end. The Appeal succeeded in bringing the US State Department to the realization that religion and religious communities should not be ignored in international relations. As a Trustee of the Appeal of conscience, Fr. Kishkovsky has travelled with delegations to the Soviet Union and Russia, Croatia, Serbia, Bosnia, Kosovo, Turkey, Austria, and Switzerland.

Foreign Policy Studies

Council on Foreign Relations (CFR)

Non-partisan body for foreign policy studies, with offices in NYC and Washington, DC. On a regular basis members are invited to meet with political leaders (presidents, prime ministers, foreign ministers), civil society and human rights activists, scholars with expertise in issues involved in crises and conflicts around the world, US diplomats, legislators, and economists. CFR organizes an annual workshop on Religion and Foreign Policy. Fr. Kishkovsky was nominated by Religions for Peace for election to the CFR and continues as a member.

Current state of relations with Orthodox Churches

In December 2014 His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon met with three Orthodox Patriarchs. 1) The meeting with Patriarch Kirill of Moscow took place in the context of His Beatitude's official protocol visit at the head of a delegation to the Russian Orthodox Church. The official meeting with Patriarch Kirill included a formal greeting in the Patriarchal residence in Danilovsky Monastery, exchange of views, lunch with further discussion, and finally concelebration of the Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple in the Uspensky (Dormition) Cathedral in the Kremlin. All indications are that the period of tension and difficulty in relations connected with the retirement of Metropolitan

Jonah has been overcome. His Beatitude is seen in the Moscow Patriarchate as a serious, spiritual, and responsible church leader. 2) The meeting with Patriarch John of Antioch took place at the Patriarchal Liturgy in Washington, DC. The encounter opened the door to a visit by His Beatitude to Lebanon at a future date. 3) The meeting with the Ecumenical Patriarch took place in the context of a St. Vladimir's Seminary visit to Halki. His Beatitude traveled to Halki as President of SVS. This opened the door to further conversations between the OCA and Constantinople, overcoming the rejection of such dialogue since 2009.

Relations with Orthodox Churches in the near future

His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon has accepted an invitation from the Supreme Catholicos of All Armenians, Karekin II, to attend an observance of the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. This event will include the canonization of Armenian martyrs. Among the guests attending will be presidents, prime ministers, foreign ministers and ambassadors, Eastern Orthodox and Oriental Orthodox primates and delegations. After the events in Armenia His Beatitude plans to make his official visit to neighboring Georgia. The details of the Georgia visit are being worked out with the Georgian Orthodox Church.

During the next months His Beatitude intends to host US Orthodox leaders for lunch at the Chancery.

Be it resolved:

The Orthodox Church in America (OCA) has no monetary or proprietary interest in real estate and improvements located in South Canaan, Wayne County, Pennsylvania, currently titled in the name of ST. TIKHON RUSSIAN ORTHODOX ORPHANAGE, a/k/a ST. TIKON' RUSSIAN ORTHODOX ORPHANAGE, a/k/a ST. TIKHON' RUSSIAN ORTHODOX ORPHANAGE, a Pennsylvania Non-Profit Corporation, South Canaan, County of Wayne, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (The Orphanage.) This property is the same premises conveyed to St. Tikhon Russian Orthodox Orphanage, by way of Deed of Metropolitan Theophilus N. Pashkovsky, which Deed was executed on July 18, 1940 and is recorded in the Wayne County Recorder of Deeds Office to Deed Book 147, Page 460 on September 26, 1940. The premises is also described in Deed of St. Tikhon's Russian Monastery Cemetery Association to St. Tikhon Russian Orthodox Orphanage, which Deed was executed on July 18, 1940 and is recorded in the Wayne County Recorder of Deeds Office to Deed Book 147, Page 461 on September 26, 1940. It consists, in total, of 7.374 acres, more or less;

Be it further resolved that in accordance with the The Statute of The Orthodox Church in America, including, but not necessarily limited to, Article V, Section 4g, we hereby approve now and forever after the transfer of said lands as follows:

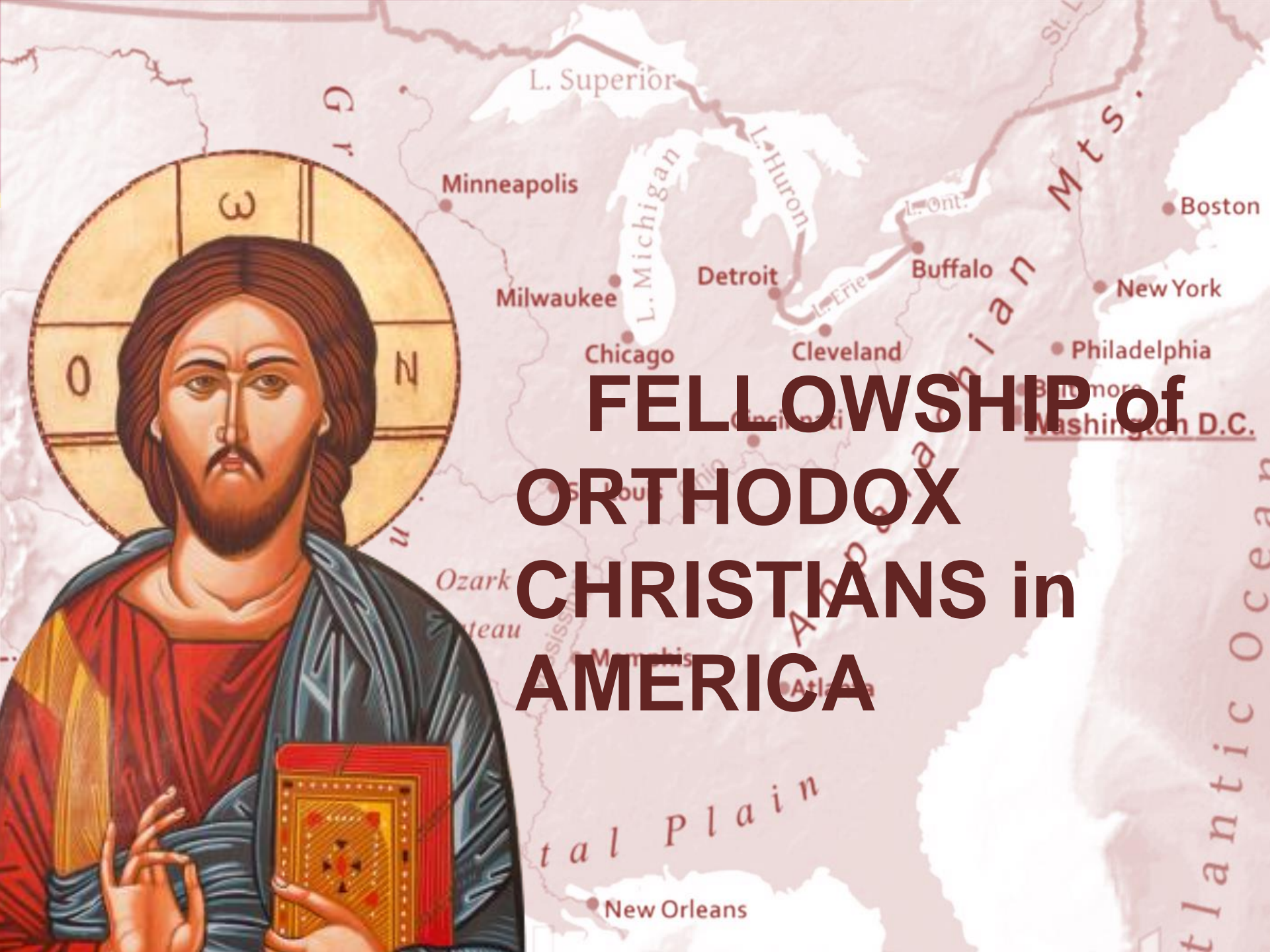
-1,933 acres of land more or less, identified as "LOT 1" on a minor subdivision map of lands of St. Tikhon Orthodox Orphanage dated April 5, 2013 and recorded to Wayne County Map Book 118, Page 117, PIN# 24-0-0271-0040.0002, to be transferred for the sum of ONE (\$1.00) DOLLAR to THE DIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA AND EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA, of 144 St. Tikhon's Road, Waymart, County of Wayne and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 18472, and

- 5,441 acres of land more or less, identified as "REMAINING LAND OF ORPHANAGE PARCEL D.B. 147, P. 461" on a minor subdivision map of lands of St. Tikhon Orthodox Orphanage dated April 5, 2013 and recorded to Wayne County Map Book 118, Page 117, PIN# 24-0-0271-0040.0003, to be transferred for the sum of ONE (\$1.00) DOLLAR to ST. TIKHONS GREEK RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH, a Pennsylvania Non-profit Corporation, D/B/A ST. TIKHON'S MONASTERY, of 175 St. Tikhon's Road, Waymart, County of Wayne and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, 18472,

The subdivision of the Orphanage property into these two parcels is further approved;

Furthermore, the OCA approves the lease to St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary of the former Orphanage Building located on the parcel that is to be transferred to St. Tikhon's Monastery for \$1.00 for a term of 99 years from a beginning date to be established by the parties thereto;

We further approve and authorize the responsible authority(ies) for each of the aforementioned entities to execute any and all documents and take any and all actions now and after today's date for all time, to accomplish the same.



**FELLOWSHIP of
ORTHODOX
CHRISTIANS in
AMERICA**

Brief for:

**Metropolitan Tikhon
& Members of the Metropolitan
Council**

Thursday, February 12, 2015

To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship



History

Established in 1927, The Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America, an official organization of the Orthodox Church in America has a mission to proclaim, share, and reveal our Orthodox Christian Faith through service, fellowship, and example.

1927 - Federated Russian Orthodox Clubs are founded by Fr. Vladimir Prislopsky, as a means to assist in the work of the Church, provide an ideal way to meet others within the faith, beyond the boundaries of the local parish

1943 - Published Prayer books for Orthodox servicemen (over 30,000 copies distributed) and Established a national scholarship fund

1944 Printed Liturgy books both in Russian and in English (500 copies)

1944 - *War Bond Campaign* raised enough money to purchase two airplanes which carried the banner of the FROC

History

1947 - Created the first Sunday School program in addition to sponsoring Sunday School conferences and providing an array of classroom materials

1948 - Established a Mission Hotline to match used liturgical items donated by established parishes with a needy small or mission parish

1963 - Organized National Choir Conferences for over 20 years under Fr. Igor Soroka

1994 - The convention body of the FROC petitioned Holy Synod of Bishops to be officially recognized by the Orthodox Church in America

1998 - The organization was renamed the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America (FOCA)

Mission

To witness the Orthodox Christian faith by charitable works through fellowship.

We strive to accomplish this by:

- studying the tenets of our Faith
- supporting and encouraging Orthodox Youth ministries
- supporting and encouraging missionary growth of our church
- encouraging and promoting unity among all Orthodox jurisdictions
- Establishing practical means for Orthodox Christians to endure lasting friendships on local and national levels through networking
- providing educational, cultural, social and athletic activities for the people of our Orthodox Faith

To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship



Executive Board

Spiritual Advisor—V. Rev. Theodore Boback, *Baltimore, Maryland*

President—Becky Tesar, *Cleveland, Ohio*

Vice President—Marge Kovach, *Bayonne, New Jersey*

Secretary—Allison Steffaro, *South River, New Jersey*

Treasurer—Michael Bowan, *Chicago, Illinois*

Immediate Past President—Dr. John Schultz, *Weirton, West Virginia*

To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship



Structure

We are made of up a network of senior and junior chapters across the country which, through a variety of religious, educational, cultural, social, and athletic activities, provides an ideal way to meet others within the faith, beyond the boundaries of the local parish.

6 Districts: Central Pennsylvania, Colonial, Michigan, New Jersey, Ohio, Pittsburgh

59 Senior (Adult) Chapters Nationwide and GROWING!

24 Junior (Youth 10-18) Chapters Nationwide

Communications

Newly appointed Director of Communications, Angelika Delimaris,
FOCACommunications@gmail.com

The ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN JOURNAL (OCJ) is the organization's official magazine published four times each year, overseen by Editor, Nick Ressetar,
tsarnick3@aol.com

- Features articles on the FOCA's programs, activities, projects and goals, features on individual membership and contemporary topics on the Orthodox faith.
- Each member/family receives a complimentary subscription.

www.OrthodoxFellowship.org @FellowshipOCA



To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship



Outreach & Service

United Fund/St. Andrew Appeal, provides financial support for Orthodox Seminaries, missions, youth ministry, and national scholarships

Additional yearly financial appeal supporting: Alaska special needs, International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) and Ohio District St. Vladimir's Camp & Retreat Center

Gifts of Love is a yearly dedicated appeal supporting a specific fund or organization

Recent recipients: Zoe! For Life Providing Orthodox servicemen's kits for military chaplains

St. Vladimir's Summer Camp 50th Anniversary

Expanding the Library at Winnipeg's Blessed Arseny Institute

Purchasing a van for St. Herman's Seminary, Alaska (\$25,000)

To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship



The Giving Continues...

St. Tikhon's Seminary Married Student Housing

- \$300,000 pledge (targeted completion 12/2014)
- Scholarships for higher education
- “Seminarian Family St. Nicholas Appeal” fulfilling *wish* lists since 2000
- “Adopt a Seminarian” program providing monthly financial assistance to struggling married students since 2002

Mission Hotline working in conjunction with *Elijah's Mantle* at St. Tikhon's Seminary

Orthodox Missions

To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship



Fellowship

The FOCA hosts a number of annual events which provide fellowship, friendly competition, and an opportunity to share in Liturgical services with hundreds of fellow Orthodox.

Celebrations of Faith are an annual creative arts contest encouraging youth to witness their faith through works of literature, musical composition, photography and visual arts. They are open to any youth communicant in a parish or mission of a canonical Orthodox Church in North America

To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship





Conventions are held on both the National and District levels for the primarily to address business matters but also provide a social component. National Conventions are typically sponsored by an individual chapter or district.

In 2015 both the AAC and The FOCA's 89th Annual Convention will occur concurrently! Starting Saturday, July 18 through Monday, July 20th.

To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship





FOCA NATIONAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

MAY 15-17, 2015

Hosted in Ohio

National Basketball Tournament - Yearly tournament geared toward assembling the youth of the organization in Christian fellowship and friendly competition, inclusive of Orthodox youth from other jurisdictions

To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship





FOCA NATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT

MAY 1-2, 2015
Columbus, OH

National Bowling and Golf Tournaments - Yearly tournaments promoting Christian fellowship and friendly competition amongst the Senior membership. Open to youth participants. This year's Golf Tournament is tentatively set for August 21-22 in Cannonsburg, MI.

To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship





SAINT VLADIMIR'S CAMP
FARMDALE, OHIO



Summer Camp - St. Vladimir's Camp and Retreat Center, which is owned and operated by The Ohio District, host three weeks of summer camping programs. Includes 2 week-long camping sessions for youth ages 7-11 & 12-16, sponsored by the Ohio District, 1 week-long camping session for youth ages 10-17 sponsored by the National FOCA Youth Department

To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship



Future of the FOCA

Membership in the F.O.C.A. provides the network, leadership and resources by which we can join together in service to others on a larger scale.

- Grow our network of members and resources
- Continue to support our Orthodox charities, institutions and seminaries
- Work in conjunction with the Orthodox Church in America toward our common goals spreading the good news of Orthodoxy across our country

Membership Inquiries

To create or to revitalize a chapter & general FOCA information :

The Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America

c/o Sandy Kapelan, Admin Secretary

892 Scott Street

Wilkes-Barre PA 18705

Orthodoxfellowship@yahoo.com

-OR-

Email: jpswv@comcast.net

Dr. John Schultz, Membership

*Pray, study,
toil,
be temperate*

To Witness Our Faith by Charitable Works Through Fellowship





Russian Brotherhood Organization of the USA



RBO

■ RBO Executive Board



Syosset, NY November 2014

Standing from left to right: Melanie Ringa, OCA Treasurer; OCA Metropolitan Tikhon and John Wanko, RBO President. Back from left to right: Fr. Eric Tosi, OCA; Basil Russin, Esq. RBO Vice President; Michael E. Snyder, RBO Sec'y/Treasurer; Stephen Wanko, RBO Director; Fr. John Jillians, OCA

RBO History...

- The only Orthodox Fraternal Benefit Society in America
- Solvency rate about 127%
- Organized in Mahanoy City, PA July 1, 1900
- Serving our members, churches & community for over 115 years
- Helping insure a healthy future for generations to come.

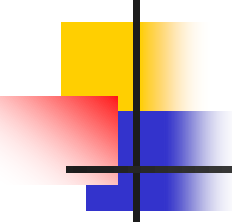
ORTHODOX CHURCH in AMERICA

RBO Fraternal Benefits...

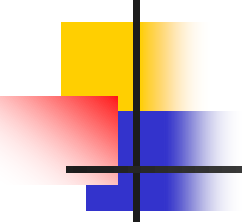


- Because the RBO Cares...
- Scholarships...
 - SS. Cyril & Methodist Scholarship Award
 - Alex Russin Scholarship Award
 - Mihaly Russin Scholarship Award
- Lodge Matching Grants...
- New Born Insurance...
- Children's Cancer Benefit...

RBO Fraternal Benefits continued...

- 
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- Nursing Home Waiver...
 - Legacy Scholarship...
 - Adoption Grant...
 - St. Tikhon's Summer Camp
Reimbursement ...
 - Historical Society of Philadelphia...

RBO Insurance Plans ...

- 
-
- Life Paid Up at 85 Plan
 - 20 Year Payment Life Plan
 - Single Premium Life Plan
 - 3 Year Payment Life Plan
 - 20 Year Endowment Plan (except New York)
 - Endowment at age 18 Plan (except New York)

RBO Insurance Plans continued ...

- 
-
- Annuity Plans
 - Accidental Death Benefit Rider
 - Church Certificates of Deposits



RBO



Thank you