

Christ the Savior Orthodox Church
Parish Council Meeting
Sunday September 28th, 2025

The meeting was opened with a prayer led by Father John at 11:50 am.

In Attendance:

- Rector: Fr. John Parsells.
- Council: Georgianne Mathews, Edward Hill, Cecilia Wyant, Anya Drobish, Chrissy Harris, Ryan Harris, Michael Prasalowicz, Marian E. Ridge, Zach Davidson, Georgiana Wright, Ioana Davidson, Anastasia Bakie,
- Also attending: Rdr. David Drobish, Tom Mathews, Kelly Hageman, Joanne Patrick

Agenda:

- Building Fund Financial Options for Assets

Discussion and Actions

- **Two Possible Proposals**
 - Engage a Financial Advisory (Montgomery Financial)
 - OR
 - Liquidate Stock Donations into Low-Risk Holdings
- **Benefits of a Financial Advisor**
 - Regardless of investment strategy, a financial advisor would be beneficial
 - More consistency to have a point person as opposed to an ever-changing parish council
 - Works for us based on how the council makes decisions
 - A financial advisor has an outside perspective with a legal fiscal responsibility
 - Should publish a financial strategy to the website
 - Builds donor confidence in the church's financial practices
 - Provides stability going forward
 - Discussion
 - Financial advisor would solicit input from the council, then come back with a recommendation
 - Investments are always unpredictable, but open to criticism from donors/parishioners
 - A financial advisor would assume that responsibility as the expert third party
 - There is a cost, but a return on that cost of the stability and expertise.
 - What is the recommendation/best practice of other churches, and are there financial advisors that are currently working with other churches or non profits?
 - Montgomery Financial is willing to work with us with no minimum, and is the primary option.

- Proposal for committee to undertake finances for building funds; needs to have a clear delineation between the stewardship committee and building committee
 - Financial Committee already exists, need to invite people to join
 - Are we also hiring this advisor to bring ideas for us to make decisions, or for them to go ahead with the liberty to make decisions.
 - Council must make financial decisions- informed by financial committee
 - Ioana's correspondence from the potential advisor was that there was uncertainty on how specific we need to get with them on their decision-making liberty.
 - We do not have a timeline or said goals to give them a good representation of our tasks.
 - We need to start accomplishing those tasks within the financial committee.
- **Motion** to go with Montgomery Financial for Advisory: Edward Hill
 - Second: Georgianna
 - All in Favor: 15 (Unanimous)
 - No objections
 - No abstentions
- Follow up recommended on the plans that were presented in regard to pledging at the 25th Anniversary Luncheon
 - Already posted on website
 - Encourages more donations by having pledging available
 - In the interim, as we move forward with the architect there will be expenses that we will need to cover.
 - Building fund savings cannot be touched until the highest level of authorization is accessed.
 - Already have an operating building account to cover those interim expenses.
 - Do we want to have a special parish meeting to follow up about the building plans?
 - General thoughts:
 - We would present the drawings, site plans, have up and running the pledging and recommendations from the advisor.
 - Not for vote, just for information and hope for pledges.
 - Could we create a pre-recorded presentation that is required for people to watch before commenting and discussing?
 - The meeting would be a presentation to inform any following discussion.
 - We want to communicate as much as possible.
 - Date for meeting: Father John will look at the calendar, talk to some people, then communicate with the council.
 - Thank you to Ioana for her time invested in pushing the ball forward for us on financial tasks.
 - Quarterly meeting on October 12th?
 - Meeting after church school orientation meeting

Cecilia moved for adjournment, Ed second, approved. The meeting closed with a prayer at 12:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Anya Drobish, Secretary