

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE DIOCESAN
COUNCIL OF THE DIOCESE OF THE MIDWEST
Virtual Meeting via GoToMeeting • 15 September 2020**

I. OPENING.

The meeting opened with the reciting of “O Heavenly King” by Archbishop PAUL at 6:37pm CST.

II. ATTENDANCE.

Present: His Eminence, Archbishop Paul; Archpriest John Zdinak, Chancellor; Priest Herman Kincaid, Secretary; Robert Koncel, Treasurer.

Council Members: Archpriests James Dank, Elijah Mueller, and Andrew Bartek; Mary Ann Bobulsky, Ellyn Gillette, Robert Graban, Kenneth Herman, Simeon Morbey, and Carrie Sabourin. Also present: Philip Sokolov.

Absent: Priests Benjamin Tucci and Jacob Van Sickle, and Protodeacon George Potym.

A quorum was determined by a majority of voting members present, in accordance with the Orthodox Church in America Statute, Article X, Section 5.

III. DISCUSSION.

His Eminence summarized the background of the agenda item. Summary: The Archbishop proposes the Diocese take possession of the former monastery property from the Springfield parish to be established as a monastery under His Eminence’s omophorion. An anonymous donation of \$100,000 will be made to the Diocese upon approval of this proposal. This donation will retire any debt held by the Springfield parish related to the monastery property and fund minor improvements to the monastery property.

Questions and discussion:

Ms. Gillette: Is Mother Alexandra a U.S. Citizen?

His Eminence: Yes. She was born here. She came up through the Wheaton parish.

Ms. Gillette: You said the Diocese would take care of the property’s expenses for the first year; who would then take over?

His Eminence: Mother Alexandra and the community that she builds there.

Ms. Gillette: How much revenue is generated today by the candle-making business? (The answer was not known. The Springfield parish would have those records.)

Fr. Mueller: Who would be the chaplain?

His Eminence: Retired Archpriest Peter Bodnar lives nearby.

Mr. Morbey: What would be the relationship of the Monastery with the Diocese ultimately?

His Eminence: Similar to a parish it would have its own bylaws, and if it dissolved the assets would revert to the Deanery c/o the Diocese.

Mr. Morbey: Suggested the Diocese retain the property and make it available for the use of the sisterhood.

His Eminence: We can consider that.

Fr. Kincaid: We would have to consider the liability/insurance implications.

Morbey/Mueller: Move that we accept His Eminence’s proposal. Carried.

IV. ADJOURNMENT. The meeting was adjourned at 7:17pm CST.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Philip Sokolov with Priest Herman Kincaid, Diocesan Secretary