

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE DIOCESAN  
COUNCIL OF THE DIOCESE OF THE MIDWEST  
Virtual Meeting via GoToMeeting • 5 October 2020**

**I. OPENING.**

The meeting was opened with the reciting of “O Heavenly King” by Archbishop PAUL at 6:04pm CST.

**II. ATTENDANCE.**

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

Council Members: Archpriests James Dank and Elijah Mueller; Priests Andrew Bartek and Jacob Van Sickle; Protodeacon George Potym; Mary Ann Bobulsky, Ellyn Gillette, Robert Graban, Kenneth Herman, and Carrie Sabourin.

Absent: Priest Benjamin Tucci and Mr. Simeon Morbey.

Deans: Archpriests Alexander Kuchta, Andrew Clements, Timothy Sawchak, Dusan Koprivica, Paul Wesche, and Joel Weir.

Philip Sokolov, Archbishop’s Secretary.

**III. DISCUSSION.**

Fr. John Zdinak reviewed the agenda for the upcoming 59<sup>th</sup> Diocesan Assembly:

- A. We will seek consent from delegates to record the meeting (via GoToMeeting.com).
- B. A video tutorial on how to navigate GoToMeeting.com is posted on the diocesan website.
- C. Credentials for the Assembly will be handled by the secretariat, who will also function as the tellers.
- D. Voting will occur via private chat to Philip Sokolov on GoToMeeting.com.
- E. Archbishop PAUL will offer his report.
- F. The Marshfield Property issue will be presented for a vote. 2/3 of all delegates present must pass the resolution for the Diocese to move forward with the purchase.
- G. Robert Koncel will give the 2020 Financial Report.
- H. Auditors’ Report: unable to complete due to Covid travel restrictions.
- I. Robert Koncel will present the 2021 Budget Proposal.
- J. Deans will offer comment and receive questions on their written reports.
- K. Metropolitan Council delegates will also offer comment and receive questions on their written report.
- L. All other organizations who have submitted written reports will be given opportunity to offer comments and field questions.
- M. Unfinished Business: Only one 50<sup>th</sup> Autocephaly Celebration was completed (Chicago).
- N. New Business: Development Officer position presentation, questions, and discussion.

**IV. TREASURER’S REPORT FOR BUDGET YEAR 2020:**

No questions for Mr. Koncel.

**V. PROPOSED 2021 DIOCESAN BUDGET:**

No questions or comments. MOTION: To present the 2021 Diocesan Budget to the 59<sup>th</sup> Diocesan Assembly for adoption. HERMAN/GRABAN. PASSED.

**VI. COMMENTS BY ARCHBISHOP PAUL:**

- A. Pleased with the idea of the proposed diocesan monastery in Marshfield.
- B. Spoke well of the many good things being done throughout the Diocese.

- C. Looking forward to the positive functions the development director will accomplish for the Diocese, especially fundraising for various Diocesan entities.
- D. Considering combining the priestly development effort with mission development.

**VII. DIOCESAN COUNCIL RETREAT:**

Council members were surveyed about their feelings surrounding attending the November 30-December 2 retreat in Burbank. Fr. Zdinak stated the retreat could be held in the Burbank church with fellowship in the basement. All proper social distancing will take place. Members surveyed about attending in person: 16 Yes, 4 No. Video conferencing will be made available for those unable to attend.

**VIII. MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS:**

- A. Fr. Elijah Mueller spoke about an idea from Fr. Joel Wilson about creating an online portal on the Diocesan website for St. Macrina students. The portal would handle all academic functions, including tuition payment, transcript requests, assignment postings, etc. The cost would be \$200 per month for the Diocese with students charged \$7 each. It is hoped that a larger enrollment will cover the Diocesan costs through student tuition.
- B. Archbishop PAUL appreciates all the hard work being done by the Diocesan Council in support of the Equipping the Saints mission of the Diocese.
- C. Robert Koncel mentioned that he is speaking with Mr. Michael Herzak concerning insurance added to the Diocesan policy to cover the Marshfield property. The proposed monastery would eventually cover this cost.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT.** The meeting was adjourned at 6:53pm CST by Archbishop PAUL with the reading of “It is truly meet...”.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Mr. Philip Sokolov with Priest Herman Kincaid, Diocesan  
Secretary*