

HOLY WISDOM OCA MISSION PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES		
Group:	Parish Council	
Place:	Holy Wisdom Mission - GJ, CO via Zoom	
Date/Time:	Thursday, July 20, 2023	
In attendance:	Father Alexander Vallens, Father Luke Uhl, Anastasia Bowman, Janet Gatseos, Karen Kopanos, Mike George, Monika Kostron	
Agenda Item	Discussion	Responsibility
1. Opening Prayer	Father Alexander Vallens	Father
2. Rector's Report	Father Alexander introduced himself. He grew up in Denver at Holy Transfiguration Cathedral, and was tonsured a reader there. He went to CU Boulder and majored in IT, where he met Matushka Maria. After graduation he went to Saint Tikhon's Seminary and was ordained to the Diaconate. He was ordained to the Priesthood in 2011 and served as a supply priest until 2013, when he was asked to serve a new mission in Parker, CO. He has had a long-term relationship with Father Luke as his spiritual father, starting from before he was ordained. Vision for Holy Wisdom: Father Alexander does not see himself as long-term pastor but more as an administrator to help us reach the point where we can receive a full-time priest. He strongly recommended that we send representatives to the Annual Mission Deanery meeting held in Oregon in February, as this a good opportunity to network with other mission parishes.	Father Alexander
3. Approve Minutes	The 22 Jun 2023 minutes were emailed to the PC membership prior to the meeting for review. Motion presented to approve these minutes with amendments by Karen K., second by Janet G . Motion for approval carried by all in attendance; no dissent.	Anastasia B.
4. Treasurer's Report	Checking balance is \$35,897.89 down from last PC report at June PC meeting by \$1,466.62. This is accounted for by \$880 for icons and \$481 for candles. Building fund balance is \$13,260.08, up \$2.87 (interest). We are on target for Stewardship at the halfway point of the year. Monica mentioned need to get the audit scheduled. This year has been a struggle to get it done this first 6 months of 2023. Described the audit process used by the Audit Committee. Treasurer's Report - approved by consensus.	Monica K.
4.a. City Market	See Community Outreach 5.d.	Monica K.
<b>5. OLD BUSINESS</b>		
5.a. Iconostasis	This was installed several weeks ago, and Father Benjamin blessed it last Sunday. Todd has some finish work and trim to complete. He plans to do this in the next 2-3 weeks. Icons have been ordered and wil be sent in the next 2-3 weeks. Anonymous donor has provided a donation to cover the cost of the two large icons.	Father Luke
5.b. Bookstore	Just placed order for some books from Saint Anthony's Monastery. Will be looking at donated items to the bookstore, including icons before making other purchases.	Anastasia B.
5.c. Fellowship Hour	Debrief from Father Benjamin's Farewell celebration - Suggestions made for different table configuration when we have larger crowds - rather than overcrowding the one side and encroaching on the icon stand in the center; perhaps moving a couple of tables to the choir side towards the back of the room. Also suggestion for the purchase of an additional table was made, will need to determine appropriate storage location - Monica volunteered to make purchase.	Janet G.

5.d. Community Outreach	Discussed purchase of reusable store bags, & will check locally what the cost is to get our name put on them - this is free advertising for parish - Monica still has this on her to do list. Reported on the City Market community rewards program - 4th qtr 2022 \$48, \$65 1st Qtr 23, and \$69 2nd Qtr 23. Father Alexander recommends looking into Safeway as it pays out better. We have 2 sandwich boards advertising the Saturday/Sunday services that are routinely put out on Sunday mornings by one of the parishioners. Newspaper ad on Saturdays - continues. We continue to collect for community food bank - Monica takes a full bin about twice a month now.	Monica K.
5.e. Parish Growth &	We currently have 3 official catechumen and 1 interested individuals attending regularly.	Fr. Luke
5.f. Book Study	Catechism classes are going well. Exciting for a mission.	Fr. Luke
<b>6. NEW BUSINESS</b>		
6.a. Service Calendars	Reviewed August and September calendars. Some reduction of number of weekday liturgy services after discussion of available choir resources being limited.	Father Luke
6.b. Clergy Compensation	Father Alexander asks that we defer this agenda item as these conversations are done with the Dean. They are trying at the Parker mission to increase clergy compensation - the mission needs to become accustomed to paying a priest so it gets to a point where they can pay a priest. Father reviewed the various categories for this compensation other than salary, including housing, & pension plan. Honorarium when Father Vallens comes, housing and mileage. The Diocesan Chancellor recently communicated with Father Luke and the Treasurer indicating that our rates of compensation should remain the same as they were with Father Benjamin.	
6.c. Parish Insurance	Suggestion is to have Monica look into Holy Wisdom purchasing our own insurance now that the official relationship with Saint Andrew's has ended with Father Benjamin's departure as our rector and Father Luke now assigned to the altar at Holy Wisdom instead of Saint Andrews. Father Alexander will provide Monica with Saint Tikhon's policy for reference.	Father Luke
6.d. Appreciation - Todd S	Monica raised suggestion that the parish show appreciation for all the hours of work the iconostasis project has taken. Suggested possibly a gift card to a nice restaurant, perhaps an icon for his home. Council supports this. Monica will do some research and send proposal to PC members	
7. Meeting Adjournment	Meeting adjourned by consensus. Closed at 2025.	Father
8. Next Meeting:	08/17/2023 @ 1830	Father
9. Minutes recorded by:	Anastasia Bowman	
11. Signature of Approval (Secretary)	Anastasia Bowman	
10. Signature of Approval (Meeting Chair)	Priest Alexander Vallens	