

60th ANNUAL DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY Diocese of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania Christ the Saviour Orthodox Church, Harrisburg, PA January 25 & 26, 2024

Metropolitan Council Report

The Metropolitan Council met 5 times in 2023 – 3 Special Sessions and 2 Regular Sessions.

February 03, 2023. Special Session conducted by Video Conference.

The main purpose of this Special Session was to consider the allocation of the 2023 Mission Planting Funds, engage a real estate broker for the sale of the Westwood property, and discuss the bonus funds from the OCA Group Affiliation Program (GAP) Insurance Program.

Concerning the 2023 Mission Planting Funds, 2 first-year Mission Planting Grants were approved.

Concerning the real estate broker for the sale of the Westwood property, the Council voted unanimously to engage Mark Kaplan and RIPCO Real Estate for a 12 month contract.

Concerning the OCA Group Affiliation Program (GAP) Insurance Program, the consensus of the Council was that these funds should not be used for any church-wide program but should be returned to the parishes enrolled in GAP, as has been done in the past.

March 14 & 16, 2023. Regular Spring Session conducted by Video Conference.

The meeting discussed various matters related to the sale of the Westwood property and other legal matters concerning the Church. Proposed members for the Preconciliar Commission for the 21st All-American Council (AAC), scheduled for 2025 were approved. Auditor's and Treasurer's reports were presented and discussed. Matters raised concerning the OCA Pension Plan by the Pension Office, the Pension Board, and the Pension Committee were extensively discussed.

May 04, 2023. Special Session conducted by Video Conference.

The main purpose of this Special Session was to approve the date and place of the 21st All-American Council, as mandated by the OCA Statute. The Arizona Grand Resort in Phoenix, AZ was approved as the site for the 21 All-American Council July 14-18, 2025.

September 06, 2023. Special Session conducted by Video Conference.

The main purpose of this Special Session was to hear a report from the Property Committee offering an update on progress in efforts to sell the Westwood property in Oyster Bay Cove, NY. The report was heard and discussed.

September 28, 2023 and October 11 & 12, 2023. Regular Fall Session

September 28 meeting was conducted by Video Conference.

On September 28, various reports were presented and discussed including the Metropolitans Report, the Chancellor and Secretary Report, and reports by the Property Committee, the Church Planting Grant initiative, and the Office of Pastoral Life.

In-Person meetings began on October 11 with an education session by James Heinzman, CPA, CFE, partner at Schultheis & Panettieri. The education session included members of the Pension Board. Following the education session, discussion was held among the Metropolitan Council, the Pension Committee, and the Pension Board.

Respectfully submitted.

Father Nicholas J. Solak
Danalisa Radu