

## 12<sup>th</sup> All-American Council – The Orthodox Church in America

### Official Minutes – Fourth Plenary Session

Tuesday PM, July 27, 1999

1. The session was opened at 2:48 PM with the singing of "The Grace of the Holy Spirit." Dr Emanuel Kolyvas read from the Scriptures.
2. His Beatitude announced a change in the agenda in order to address the Funding Proposal.
  - a. Matushka Terry Smith moved to amend Item 5 to add, following the word "diocese", "and from there to the Office of the Treasurer, no later than March 1st of each year."

Fr Ernesto Rios seconded the motion. Motion passed.

  - b. Fr Robert Kindell moved to change the words "parish members" or "members" to "parishioners" wherever they occur in the funding resolution.

Fr Andrew Clements seconded the motion. Motion passed

  - c. The Resolution as amended passed.
3. Fr Dmitri Oselinsky reviewed the Pension Plan Report and moved the adoption of the proposed amendments, as follows:

**Plan section 4.04 is restated as follows:**

#### **4.04 Spouse's Benefit**

- a. If a married Member dies in active service, a spouse's benefit is payable to his spouse. The spouse's benefit shall commence upon the death of the Member and is payable for the life of the spouse.
  - i. If the Member was age 55 or older at death, the spouse's monthly benefit is equal to 27.5 percent of the Member's Final Average Monthly Compensation as of the date of his death. On or after July 1, 1997, the spouse's monthly benefit payable to a surviving spouse shall be based upon thirty-six per cent (36%) (rather than twenty-seven point five percent [27.5%]) of the Member's Final Average Monthly Compensation. On or after July 1, 1999, the spouse's monthly benefit payable to a surviving spouse shall be based upon forty-two and a quarter percent (42.25%) rather than thirty-six percent [36%]) of a percentage of the Member's Final Average Monthly Compensation. The percentage shall be equal to the vested percentage of the Member's benefit as determined by the schedule set forth in subsection 4.03(b).
  - ii. If the Member was under age 55 at death, the spouse's monthly benefit is equal to the Equivalent Actuarial Value of a benefit commencing when the Member would have been age 55

and equal to 27.5 per cent of the Member's Final Average Monthly Compensation. On or after July 1, 1997, the spouse's monthly benefit payable to a surviving spouse shall be based upon thirty-six per cent (36%) (rather than twenty-seven point five percent [27.5%]) of the Member's Final Average Monthly Compensation. On or after July 1, 1999, the spouse's monthly benefit payable to a surviving spouse shall be based upon forty-two and a quarter percent (42.25%) rather than thirty-six per cent [36%] of a percentage of the Member's Final Average Monthly Compensation. The percentage shall be equal to the vested percentage of the Member's benefit as determined by the schedule set forth in subsection 4.03(b).

- b. Notwithstanding subsection 4.04(a) above, in the event that a Member's Beneficiary designated under Section 1.01 is other than his spouse, the spouse's benefit shall be reduced by the Equivalent Actuarial Value of the lump sum benefit payable to such Beneficiary under Section 4.06(b).
- c.
  - i. If a Member with 15 years participation dies after age 62, but before normal retirement age of 65, his spouse will receive a benefit as if the Member were at age 65 at his demise, reduced by 0.25% for each month prior to the normal retirement date for a ten year certain period. The spouse's benefit shall commence upon expiration of the ten year certain period.
  - ii. In the event a married Employee who has attained age 65 dies in active service or after retiring, the spouse's benefit hereinabove described shall be payable on his behalf in addition to any benefit payable to his Beneficiary under Section 4.01(c). The spouse's benefit shall commence upon expiration of the ten year certain period.
- d. Upon the cessation of payments of the benefit payable to the spouse, the excess, if any, of the amount of the Member's Contribution Account at his death over the total benefit payable to the spouse shall be paid in one sum to the Beneficiary designated by the spouse, if living, otherwise to the spouse's legal representatives.

Except as modified above, all the provisions of the Plan shall continue. Further, in no event shall the foregoing amendments decrease the accrued benefit of any Member or reduce the benefits being paid to a Member or his beneficiary prior to the effective date of July 1, 1999.

Fr Theodore Shomsky seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- 4. Fr William Evansky presented the Report of the Credentials Committee:
  - a. **Registrations as of 2:00 PM today:**

Bishops	13
Clergy Delegates	274
Lay Delegates	265
Observers	418

*Total* 970

**b. In attendance at this session:**

Bishops	11
Clergy Delegates	225
Lay Delegates	218
Observers	220
<i>Total</i>	674

5. Bishop Seraphim introduced a presentation on clergy care, and in particular, life insurance.

Protodeacon Eric Wheeler moved for the adoption of the resolution on an OCA Term Life Insurance Plan as follows:

**Proposed Resolution on an Orthodox Church in America Term Life Insurance Plan**

Whereas, the OCA Term Life Insurance Plan is a valuable and important benefit to the clergy, lay workers (and their families) of the OCA, and

Whereas, guaranteeing the financial stability and long-term viability of the plan for the benefit of all clergy and lay workers is of paramount importance, and

Whereas, it is dependent upon all to be a part of the program for the benefit of all "... on behalf of all and for all,"

Now, therefore, be it resolved: That all parishes of the OCA are required to provide this benefit of OCA Term Life Insurance to their full-time, assigned clergy and lay workers in an amount of at least a minimum of \$50,000, the expense of which is to be born by the parish. Additional amounts of coverage may be purchased at the expense of the full-time, assigned clergy or lay workers. Coverage may also be purchased for other clergy and lay workers at the discretion of each parish or at the individual's own expense.

Motion seconded by Fr John Bacon. Motion passed.

6. The session was adjourned for a coffee break at 4:09 PM, and reconvened at 4:23 PM.
7. Archbishop PETER, Professor John Erickson, and Fr Leonid Kishkovsky offered a presentation on autocephaly.
8. Metropolitan THEODOSIUS commented, summarized, and thanked the speakers.
9. Fr Leonid Kishkovsky introduced Dean Triantafilou, *Executive Director of IOCC*, who offered a brief presentation.
10. Fr. Kishkovsky introduced IOCC staff members, Dmitry Petrov and Dmitri Penkovsky, recently released hostages of the Chechnya conflict, and their

wives. A standing ovation was followed by an address by the two men. Metropolitan Theodosius made the Presentation of the Order of St Innocent Silver Medal to both couples.

11. The Russian Brotherhood Organization presented a gift to Messrs Petrov and Penkovsky to aid in their efforts with orphanages in the Caucasus region.
12. The session adjourned at 6:00 PM with the singing of "It is truly meet ..."