

St. Matthew Orthodox Church Parish Council Meeting

Meeting: October 10, 2023

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

1. Opening prayer was given by Father John

Council members attending:

Paul Novak – president
Matt Tomac – vice president
Tom Julian – treasurer –
Mark Massopust – corresponding secretary
Elaine Gavaras – recording secretary- excused

Guests: Jeff Zdrale

Minutes from September were reviewed. No additions or corrections. A motion was made to approve by Paul, seconded by Father. Approved by all.

Paul reviewed that email approvals from the Council were received for putting on hold discussions about the Icons on the Iconostasis, T-shirts being sold in the book store and the accepting of the donation of the Fall Festival food from the Ukraine community.

Jeff requested an update be given to the parish in regards to the Diocesan Assembly. Father mentioned that he had already spoken about this after Church and would include some highlights in the Saturday weekly email.

Reports/updates/new business:

1. Priest's report – Father John:

Father gave a more detailed update on the Diocesan Assembly. Father pointed out:

- Most Parishes are doing well
- There is growth in almost all Churches.
- In general all is going well with the Midwest Diocese.
- Bishop Daniel is on a three year rotation for visiting Parishes.
- Within the Diocese an outreach program for South Dakota is under way.
- The Monastery in Missouri is doing well. Candles sales are a big contributor to this and SMOC will continue to purchase candles from them.

On October 7th Great Vespers was Chapel in Sister Bay for our annual gathering. A smaller crowd than normal attended this year. Still a good clean up was completed and the service was held.

2. President's report – Paul Novak:

See New Business

3. Vice presidents' report - Matt Tomac:

The church has purchased a leaf blower to help with the leaves that gather at the front door of church.

4. Treasurer – Tom Julian:

- Finances are strong and steady.
- All bills have been paid
- Building repairs and maintenance fund is strong
- Giving by the Parish remains good.

New Business:

- St. Matthew's Dinner date was set at Nov.12th. The Church will provide the main course with side dishes being provided by the parish. Dorothy Olson will decorate the hall for this meal. Paul made a motion on all of this, second by Matt. Motion approved.
- A discussion was held concerning the SMOC Newsletter. This Newsletter was started during COVID and has been in part replaced by the weekly email that comes out on Saturday morning. Father and others discussed that we would try and have two editions. One around Christmas time and the other around the time of Pascha. The council approved this change.

Old Business:

- None at this time

The next Council meeting will be November 14th at 6:00 pm.

A motion was made to adjourn by Paul and seconded by Matt, approved by all.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Father gave the closing prayer.