

## St. Matthew Orthodox Church Parish Council Meeting

**Meeting:** April 25, 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  
Pedro Sarsama – corresponding secretary  
Elaine Gavaras – recording secretary

**Guests:** Jeff Zdrale, Mark Massopust

Jeff: Jeff mentioned that he has been reviewing tapes from the Holy Trinity Cathedral in Chicago. He was surprised that the music was Slavonic. Paul has family in that church and will obtain more information – just for curiosity.

Minutes from March were reviewed. A motion was made to approve by Paul, seconded by Matt. Approved by all.

### **Reports and updates:**

#### 1. **Priest's report – Father John:**

Holy week and Pascha went well and Father was grateful for how smooth everything went and for the attendance.

A Liturgy will be held on May 06 at Transfiguration Chapel in Door County along with a memorial to Pat Mangan. There will be a Ukrainian Bake Sale on May 06 also. A Typica will be held at the Deacon's house on May 07.

The clergy convocation will be May 08-09-10 in Chicago and Father will be attending. The cost is \$310 along with travel expense which will be covered by the parish.

Father would like approval for commissioning some people to create digital sheet music. Noah, Evelyn and Matthew have been able to help with this in the past. Then on Holy Friday and during lamentation next year, the words and the music will line up. The music will stay the same.

Father and Jeff Zdrale will offer guidance. Father requests that the Holy Week and Pascha music be prioritize. Will check on how long it takes to create the digital music and then will discuss possible reimbursement at the next meeting.

The wedding for Caine and Evelyn will be May 20, 2023 at 1:30pm.

During Vacation Church School this summer, we will develop a program for the children to develop a garden at the rear entrance of the church. This will promote the children to feel ownership and responsibility.

Connected with the above is school classroom improvement. Father feels we could spend a day to clean, paint and organize the school room prior to the start of church school next fall. This is tentatively planned for August.

## **2. President's report – Paul Novak:**

There are many metal chairs upstairs which we do not use. Will consider ways of disposing them.

Eagle Scout banquet – Court of Honor, will be held on June 17 at 2pm. There will be some pre-decoration. Matt and Sarah are organizing.

The annual meeting minutes were reviewed with minor corrections which have been made. A motion was made to approve by Paul and seconded by Tom. The minutes will be posted on the website.

Since the last meeting, we had email conversations with approval of the following.

April 12, an email was received of support and approval for \$500.00 gift for Father and his family which was approved by Council.

April 11, council was asked by email to approve the grass cutting quote of \$90 per cutting. This was approved by Council.

The snow-plowing company will repair the grass damage that occurred during winter plowing, sometime this next month.

We had great attendance during Holy Week and Pascha.

Matt Tomac, Deacon Spyridon and Paul Novak inspected the roof on the west side of the church. It appears that we are drawing close to a time where we will need to address the roof issues. Paul proposed to look into the cost of upgrading this area in a permanent manner. Since there will be changes, we may consider adding a gold roof or gold metal roofing which is felt to be 'do-able' with the present roof. Ideas will continue to be discussed and will do some investigation regarding price. The original quote of the west roof was \$32,000 about four years

ago. Likely add 30% on to that which would \$40,000 - \$45,000 which would include the gold roofing.

**New business:**

**Paul Novak:**

1. Paul was able to locate an orthodox website that can produce 4 icons that can be placed on the Royal Door. They are hand-painted in Romania. To attach these icons, a fine mesh panel can be placed. These icons are \$229.39 each. These icons match up most closely with our present iconography. Paul will send a link to the parish council to further read and review the icons.

The siding project will be restarted on May 27-28. The windows have arrived also.

Both dishwashers have been installed and are working well.

Building the wall for the narthex will be a multi-day project and will need to be planned sometime in the future.

Candle holders which protected the lit candles while walking outdoors, worked well during Pascha.

Paul will talk to John Limberopoulos. about the first aid kit and where it can be placed at the church.

2. **Vice President's report – Matt Tomac:** nothing to report.

3. **Treasurer's report – Tom Julian:**

The budget was reviewed. There was money available from Pat's memorial. We will then have > \$10,000 in the chapel fund. Tom will be meeting with Pat's family again. This money has been placed in higher-yielding CD's.

We also had several gifts made to the church totaling \$2,500 which was moved to the Legacy Fund and to pay for the narthex wall.

All the bills are paid through May.

We have had an increase in our insurances premiums.

We presently have over \$10,000 in the iconography fund.

**4. Recording Secretary – Elaine:**

There was a concern regarding possible unwanted activity in the parking lot. Matt discussed with Father and will look at signs to be mounted in the entry to the church.

The next Council meeting will be May 09, 2023 at 6:00 pm.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:07 pm.

Father gave the closing prayer.