

St. Matthew Orthodox Church Parish Council Meeting

Meeting: February 08, 2022

Meeting called to order 6:02 pm

1. **Opening prayer was given by Father John**

Council members attending:

Paul Novak – president

Matt Tomac – vice president

Tom Julian – treasurer

Linda Bisbee – corresponding secretary

Elaine Gavaras – recording secretary

Guests:

Jeff Zdrale

Minutes from January meeting were reviewed. Moved to accept made by Paul and seconded by Linda. All approved. Minutes will be posted on the website.

Reports/updates:

1. **Priest's report – Father John:**

Archbishop Paul is coming the weekend of February 25-27. He will meet with the council on February 26 for dinner. Matt will be made a reader and Padro a Subdeacon.

The idea of sponsoring a priest and his family and having them speak for Lent to our parish March 13, 2022, The Sunday of Orthodoxy, has been well received. This idea was reviewed with the Ministry Team and approved.

Outreach to Steven's Point: Father talked to Peter Perry about meeting with the Orthodox people in the area. Will move forward with this idea and meet in the spring or summer.

The Catechumen class went very well. We have received 5 people as catechumens. Clint and Jennifer will be married May 15 at St. Matthew.

The Lenten schedule is being developed. We will return to presanctified meals on Wednesdays during Lent. We will keep it simple with one person volunteering for soup and another salad. Will also proceed with the Forgiveness Sunday service on March 06, 2022. We will also move forward with the Pascha midnight meal and the Agape meal the following day after the Agape service. This will likely be outdoors, as it was last year, as this worked well.

Father sent an email to the Iron Mountain Parish but did not receive a reply regarding joint services.

Matthew Hanson is being trained as a third choir director. Father would like him to be trained with Jeff and possibly have some one-on-one zoom lessons with the choir director at St. Mary's OCA in Minneapolis. Tom proposed \$30/hour, not to exceed 20 hours. Seconded by Paul and agreed by all.

The All American Council is in May. Father talked with Pedro and would like him to be the lay candidate. Proposed by Father and seconded by Paul. Agreed by all.

2. President's report – Paul Novak:

On January 24, the council, via e-mail, accepted the quote and work to be done on Herrick Hall on February 03. We now have 16 new outlets and breakers in the Hall to accept the increase in electrical needs.

Svetlana approached Paul and Tom and told them she would try to arrange for a ping-pong table for the activity room upstairs.

Nathanial Tomac gave Paul an update on picnic benches. Paul signed the letter and Nathanial presented to his Eagle Scout Master for approval

3. Vice President's report – Matt Tomac:

A parishioner asked about testing for mold presence in the eating area. Matt will continue to research for ways to test. There is no visible mold noted.

Matt has been diligent with mopping the floors to help with water and salt that is tracked in from the outside.

4. Treasurer's report – Tom Julian:

Tom sent the proposed 2022 budget and the financial summary.

Treasurer's report for January 2022 was reviewed.

Tom will focus on P42 project, extra needs, increase in ministry giving, legacy and endowment gifts and feasibility of siding

5. Corresponding secretary – Linda Bisbee: none

New Business:

1. Bishop Paul's visit February 25-27, 2022
2. OCMC Missionary support charitable giving, 2022
3. Review of annual meeting agenda/materials – will access Zoom. Paul will send agenda and minutes in advance.
 - a. Approval of minutes from last year's meeting
 - b. AAC lay delegate
 - c. Approval of PC members for another term
 - d. 2022 budget
 - e. Accepting of external siding and Herrick Hall window proposal as not to exceed dollar amount – quote for \$59,000 not including the north side of the church. The windows will be donated by Deacon Spyridon and installed by members of the parish. Colors will be discussed later.
4. Review icon for royal doors and cross above last supper – Jeff has offered to donate a cross over the Last Super on the iconostasis. Paul proposed to accept Jeff's offer contingent on the design. Linda motioned and Paul seconded. Accepted by all. Paul and Jeff will continue to work together on choosing a design.
5. Tom mentioned that Cheryl was approached about selling orthodox art or project items in the book store. The proposal was made to allow a brochure to be placed in the book store, but not the items. Father asked for Tom to direct the parishioner to discuss with him.

Old Business:

1. Herrick Hall electrical – discussed above
2. Outdoor pantry – will be discussed at a different time
3. Choir mats for the floor – the space and allowing the back room door to open over the mats is an issue. Matt will continue to work on the project.
4. Background checks - Father will continue to work on this
5. Outreach to Steven's Point – discussed above
6. Second exit out of the Nave – Elaine will review minutes
7. Nathaniel Tomac, Eagle Scout project – discussed above

The next meeting will be March 08, 2022 at 6:00 pm.

Motion to adjourn made by Paul and approved by all.

Meeting adjourned at 7:17 pm.

Father gave the closing prayer.