

St. Matthew Orthodox Church Parish Council Meeting

Meeting: August 09, 2022

Meeting called to order 6:03 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

Minutes from June meeting were reviewed with the addendum to the spelling of Preble Park. Move to accept made by Paul and seconded by Matt. All approved. Minutes will be posted on the website.

Jeff has a picture of Bishop Boris Geeza, who was the first Bishop when St. Matthew was a mission. He requested that this picture be mounted in Herrick Hall.

Jeff borrowed a tent from the church. It was unusable and he threw it away. Jeff is offering to donate a new tent, back to the church. This is much appreciated.

Reports/updates:

1. **Priest's report – Father John:**

As of today, Father is still unsure of when the funeral will be for his grandmother.

Father is reaching out to a former family of our parish and is hopeful they will be returning.

Brandon and Tara will be moving out of the area.

Father Spyridon will be permanently moving to Wisconsin in 2 weeks. He will be requesting a permanent transfer by the Bishop.

There are plans to start the siding project the weekend of September 9-10.

Plans for the parish trip to Transfiguration Chapel in Sister Bay will likely be Saturday, September 24. Will plan for Vespers also. If needed, will plan to bring supplies for cleaning the chapel.

Bishop Daniel will be arriving November 19-20 and also attend our St. Matthew dinner.

2. President's report – Paul Novak: no updates

3. Vice President's report – Matt Tomac:

The picnic tables that Nathaniel created are finished and are a great addition to our grounds.

The downstairs toilet is 'moving'. Matt believes that the bolts may be loose and will tighten them. Paul suggested to check all the toilets.

4. Treasurer's report – Tom Julian

See attached report.

Tom suggests entering the iconography monies into a Fox Community Bank CD at 2.5% for 13 months. This would be an interest of about \$212.50. The minimum deposit is \$5,000. Father advised to invest \$8,500. Motion made to move forward with this idea made by Paul and seconded by Elaine. All approved.

Tom continues to make an additional payment to the principle of the church loan. For a few months, the extra payments were made to interest instead. This has been corrected.

There has been little contribution to the Ministry team and Tom advised to remind the parish of this important mission. Tom suggested making this a focus at the St. Matthew dinner.

All prices are rising. We are doing OK.

5. Corresponding secretary – Pedro Sarsama: no updates

New Business:

Linda Bisbee has retired from the parish council and according to bylaws; the position may be filled by the council. Father reached out to Pedro Sarsama who graciously agreed. Linda has generously agreed to continue with working on the Sunday bulletin and the church directory. Duties were reviewed and discussed. Tom added for us to be available to communicate the vision of the parish council and the parishioners including initiatives that we are moving forward. Paul motioned to approve and was seconded by Tom.

The fall festival will be in October 22, 2022 and Father would like the monies to be sent to the OCA Diocese in Alaska. Paul feels we may be able to do a bit more advertising for the festival this year.

Church Picnic is scheduled August 28, 2022 at Preble Park.

Paul made contact with the makers of the cross over the iconostasis.

Old Business:

The tree was taken down by the fire-pit and it looks terrific. We will plan on a meal after Vespers by the fire-pit sometime this fall.

Pedro suggested to have the picture of Bishop Daniel hung in Herrick Hall prior to his arrival.

The next meeting will be September 13, 2022 at 6:00 pm.

Motion to adjourn made by Father and seconded by Tom, approved by all.

Meeting adjourned at 7:09 pm.

Father gave the closing prayer.