

St. Matthew Orthodox Church Parish Council Meeting

Meeting: 06/13/2023

Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm.

Father John gave the opening prayer.

1. **Father John**

Council members attending:

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

Guests: Jeff Zdrale

Corrections of last minutes: the iconography CD accrual is quarterly and not monthly. Corrected.

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

Updates requested by Jeff on the following subjects:

Jeff spoke that Cathy Mangan will be donating books from Pat to the church. Jeff suggests that as more books come in, we will need to consider more book shelves.

Jeff asks how Isaac is doing with delivering the foods to the pantry. He has been successfully donating to the pantries, alternating deliveries to each.

The grill-out will be on July 01 after Vespers. There will be a potluck and an informal gathering for whoever wishes to attend.

Reports and updates:

Priest's report – Father John:

We have eight children registered for Vacation Church school in June and about 13 in July.
Thanks to Deb Novak for working on the garden beds over the past couple of weeks.

Svitlana Mykhaykyuk asked if there can be a Ukrainian event on the evening of June 29.

A parishioner requested for a surprise event be held in Herrick Hall.

Archbishop Daniel may be visiting in August or September and may serve liturgy then also.

Angelica Pfitzinger has been accepted to attend an Orthodox Conference for young adults in Poland and Father is requesting for the Council to approve paying for her registration fee which is \$200.00. Father made a motion which was seconded by Paul and approved by all.

The Youth and Young Adult meeting will be held on July 21.

The Bishop has blessed Father John to perform liturgies at Deacon Spyridon's home in Waupaca and in Sister Bay. Typica services will continue.

New business:

1. President's report – Paul Novak:

Around early August, we will hold an informational meeting for the parish. Father felt that August 06 may be a suitable time to have this meeting. Iconography campaign will be discussed. We will also discuss the roof repair and dollar amount. Tom will gather some information regarding project discussion prior to that meeting.

The Sunday school room and second floor cleaning and painting will be scheduled. Going forward, we may consider a team to consider future proposals for the second floor. All rooms need attention. A short-term plan would be helpful but then a committee to consider using the space long-term will be developed. Paul will discuss spear-heading this project with Matt. May also consider this discussion at the August parish meeting.

2. Vice President's report – Matt Tomac: none

3. Treasurer's report – Tom Julian:

See attached.

We have switched the donation dollars from the McClanahan family to the Sarsama family as Pedro will be attending seminary starting this fall. He will receive two checks in 2023. We will then send a check quarterly.

\$250 has been given for Vacation Church School.

Tom met with the roofing contractor yesterday and the estimate is 30% higher as compared to 4 years ago. This result in the estimate to be in the range of \$40,000. He was able to obtain samples to view.

We are ahead of budget by 3.8%.

Tom encourages people to write a check and use envelopes when giving their donation for better tracking.

Old Business:

The annual church picnic is proposed to be on August 20. August 27 will be as the second option. There are pavilions at Bay Beach which has grilling opportunities. Renting the pavilion is less than at Prebble Park. A motion to approve the church picnic venue was made by Paul and seconded by Father John. All in favor.

We had a good workday for siding the church last weekend. The next workday is tentatively July 23 and 24.

Constructing/building the wall in the narthex is currently on hold until after the siding is installed.

Chuck Bayerl is currently working with Tri-City Glass to make the glass that covers the St. Matthew icon in the narthex.

The project for commissioning new sheet music with correct words for Holy Week is currently on hold.

Martha Heid asked about a small fence in the grassy area outside of Herrick Hall so that the children do not run into the parking lot. This would be difficult to mow around and maintain. Father John will discuss with Martha.

The code has been changed to the entry door.

The directory has been updated and is ready for print. It will be finalized by Father John first and then released.

Pedro has decided not to take the Herrick Hall windows.

Since we have so many people attending liturgy, Mark questioned if the upper doors can be unlocked prior to liturgy so parishioners can park upstairs. That can be done, but then we need to be sure that someone is appointed for unlocking and locking the doors. Father John has a key. Paul will reach out to Matt and place this information in the email.

The next Council meeting will be July 11, 2023, at 6:00 pm.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 pm.

Father gave closing prayer.

Addendum 06-15-2023

Father and Paul have had lengthy conversations for some time about the icons which are currently on the Iconostasis. We do not have icons of our patron saint, St. Matthew and of St. John the Baptist which we should have. There is an icon producer at <https://damascenegallery.com> who sells icons which have been written by Dmitry Shkolnik. They have a complete set of icons for an iconostasis. We do not need a complete set as our second row (Festal icons) are new. Paul spoke with Father Jonah Campbell from Damascene gallery. In short, we could get a complete set of high-quality reproductions of Dmitry icons for our lower-level larger icons of the iconostasis, which would be a total of six icons.

To understand the quality of these icons, Father, Tom, and Paul spoke and advised to purchase one icon of the Nativity from Dmitry, to be placed above the Table of Oblation (Porskomidi) in the alter. Through email communications, the Council voted unanimously in agreement to purchase a 24-inch icon that will cost \$204 which includes a \$33.75 discount that Father Jonah gave us. Not only does the Church need the icon, but it can be used to show the difference in quality and color between what we have now and what we could have on our iconostasis in the future. The icon will arrive in the next two weeks.