

St Matthew Orthodox Church Parish Council Meeting

Meeting: March 12, 2024

Meeting called to order at 6:01 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

Vera Limberopoulos - recording secretary

guests: Jeff Zdrale, Mark Kotz

A. Minutes from February 13, 2024, parish council meeting were reviewed. A motion was made to approve by Paul Novak, seconded by Tom Julian. Approved by all.

B. Marc Kotz wanted to touch bases with the council due to his recent absence.

Reports / updates / old business:

2. Priest's report- Father John:

A. Liturgical schedule for April and May has been sent out.

B. Choir: Jeff Zdrale is taking a leave of absence for now. Matthew Hanson and Sarah Tomac will be leading the choir on alternate Sundays. Emmelia Roegner will lead the choir during liturgy on March 16 in Waupaca.

C. Catechumens:

1. There have been 24 new people who have attended church services at least 4 times with 18 on track to join the church. If visitors ask about becoming a member: Father stated that it typically takes about one year of attending services, meeting with father, and attending catechumen classes to join the church. We are excited with our new attendees and are reminded to welcome them and introduce ourselves.

2. Waupaca: Dan Elsinger, wife Kayde and son Nate will be made catechumens on March 16th. They will come into the church this summer.
3. St Matthew: David and Emma Niemi, Derek Vandehey, Isaac Crawmer and Alejandro Martinez will be joining the church on Lazarus Saturday, April 27th. Gabriel and Lauren and their children will join the church in June, after the birth of their daughter.
- D. Young adult group: Noah Becker has put together a group of young adults, some from high school. They met last Sunday, at church. Father John and Paul offered the support from the church.
- E. Calendar: March 29 – St John’s Meal.

April 6 – Liturgy Transfiguration Chapel, Sister Bay

April 12 & 13 - Lenten Retreat led by Presvytera Rebecca Luft

2. President's report - Paul Novak:

- A. Camp scholarships have been approved by the council. Danny Panella inquired about two scholarships for his sons. Currently, no one else has inquired about them. Father will discuss it in church.
- B. Sign up sheets will be utilized for meals after Presanctified Liturgy. There will be two slots per day, one for soup, and one for salad and bread.
- C. Forgiveness Sunday is next week, on March 17th. Father will decide if more education/communication is needed.
- D. Annual church cleaning is April 20th.
- E. Iconography: We are looking to secure an additional \$9,000 in donations, towards obtaining our funding goal. Letters will be sent to the parish via US postal mail to aid in funding.
- F. Office stationery: Paul has a limited amount of church letterheads and envelopes. We are looking into obtaining more to have on hand.

3. Vice president's report - Matt Tomac:

- A. The annual church picnic has been approved for August 18th at Bay Beach.
- B. A privacy door knob for the bathroom in the narthex has been installed.
- C. The lock to Herrick Hall works intermittently during cold weather. Arrangements will be made by Matt to repair it.
- D. The water fountain in the hall is out of service, does not drain and is not repairable. Options for restricting drain access are being considered.

4. Treasurer's report - Tom Julian:

- A. We have received excellent offerings.
- B. The 2 \$15,000 CDs will yield \$30,500 on maturity in December.
- C. Iconography: There is currently slightly less than \$6,500 in promised pledges in the iconography account. We will have \$42,000 on hand by when the funds are needed. Installation will start in fall. One third of the balance is needed down at commencement of the work this spring. We would like to have the pledges by September 30th. Additional pledges are still needed.
- D. We are on track for having all our bills paid and good cash flow for the year so far.
- E. We have saved \$1,800 in the legacy fund and are in place to pay Pedro Sarsama the second payment.
- F. Snow expenses were a few thousand dollars, less cost than prior years.
- G. The Legacy Fund and The Endowment Fund will be split into two separate funds to simplify accounting. The Legacy Fund will manage funds for Holy Transfiguration Chapel and the Endowment Fund will manage funds for SMOC. A motion was made to approve by Paul, seconded by Matt. Approved by all.

New Business:

- A. Herrick Hall has no central AC. Previously we got by with window units which were not very effective. Paul received a quote for a central AC system of \$4,700. It would supply Herrick Hall and the big room. \$1,500 would be needed to start, and the additional payments would be made over 60 days, with balance paid on completion. Paul found 6 people that would commit to funding the project. A motion was made to approve by Paul and seconded by Vera. Approved by all.
- B. A request was made by Fr John for a larger table in the narthex. It would be on the left wall upon entering and utilized for information sheets, etc. Options were discussed and will be reviewed again later.
- C. Options for an AED were discussed. More information to follow.
- D. Mark Massopust discussed options and formats for a biannual newsletter. They will come out after Pascha (June/July) and pre-Pentecost (Dec/Jan).
- E. Vera Limberopoulos is getting a handle on her new position as secretary with welcome input from the council.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:12. Father gave the closing prayer.

