

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING FEBRUARY 9, 2021
SAINT MATTHEW ECUMENICAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

The meeting was called to order by Tonya Adams at 7:01 pm, a zoom meeting.

Attendance:

Parish Council Members: Tonya Adams, Mariah Doyle-Sandoval, Joshua Cruz, Jennie Guida, Sharon Smith, Lydia Russo, Doris Hand, Polly Touhey, Anitha Madanu, and Ana Diaz.

Council members absent: Stephany Crisantos and Rosa Isela Lopez

Non-council members: Bishop Peter Hickman, Mirella Hickman, Deacon Tony Russo, Deacon Tammy Fuqua, Paul Schumaker, John Deane and Fr. Arturo Querijero.

Decisions and Votes:

Lydia Russo moved to approve the January, 2021 Minutes. Jennie Guida seconded the motion.

Passed unanimously. None opposed.

1. Opening Prayer was given by Bishop Peter Hickman.

2. Mission statement and meeting objectives:

Our mission is to work together with Pastor representatives (Bishop Peter and Father Arturo), the Clergy Council and each other to assist with the operation and business aspects of Saint Matthew. Our meeting objectives are to make non-pastoral and non-clergy decisions to insure the successful operation of Saint Matthew church so that Saint Matthew church can continue to carry out its mission.

2.1 A quorum is present for the meeting.

2.2 Opening Remarks: Tonya received two agenda items that were placed on the agenda; others received were referred to ministry items.

3. Approval of Minutes: A request was made to have the minutes approved by email. If minutes are approved earlier community members interested in ongoing activities could see them. After discussion, it was decided to continue approval of the minutes in the PC meeting. The PC minutes review copy, like the meeting agenda, can be sent to those interested in ongoing activities to attend as observers. Lydia Russo moved to approve the January, 2021 Minutes. Jennie Guida seconded the motion.

Passed unanimously. None opposed.

4. Old Business:

4.1 Finance Report: Deacon Tony Russo advised January, 2021 was another good month with a little over \$5,000 in the black due to the fundraiser income. Without the fundraiser, the income remains positive. Eleven remaining tickets hope to be sold before February 28. A big thank you to Bob Morano, Mirella Hickman, and Kathryn Tuma for the budge work.

Jennie Guida asked for a copy of the 2021 budget. It was noted that the PC has to approve the 2021 budget.

- 4.2 Fundraiser Review/Progress Check: 2 raffle tickets for Father Arturo and 1 for Bea Tiritilli. Jennie sent the Ash Wednesday schedule to people who have not come in person and any remaining tickets can be sold then. Eleven tickets came through online.

Savers Fundraiser: The Savers Resale Shop will pay 20 cents a pound for soft goods. If we collect 2,500 lbs. we can earn \$500. From March 5 through April 25 the collection will be ongoing. We need about 110 big trash bags filled with soft goods, such as linens, quilts, clothes. Savers will sort the goods into saleable and non-saleable. The last Sat. of the drive items will be taken to Savers in Yorba Linda. Deacon Tammy has a flyer to be posted on Facebook for outreach. Theme will be: Spring Clean-Up for Heart and Soul of Saint Matthews.

- 4.3 Saint Matthew Bulletin Translation for Community Inclusion: Ana Diaz asked whether the translation is for the whole bulletin. The purpose of the translation is to inform the English and the Spanish-speaking communities of each other's activities. The second page of the bulletin with activities needs to be translated. Mirella and Ana will discuss this in more detail. The Spanish translation can be emailed to the Spanish community.

- 4.4 PC Retreat: "Christ Like Leadership": Retreat reschedule from January 23 to February 13, 10 am to 12 pm. With the opening of the church, we need to do an introduction of the PC members. We can talk about it at the end of the retreat. Three more background paragraph introductions are needed before the retreat so they can be posted for sharing.

- 4.5 Deacon Tony brought up the topic of the Unity Mass. The months of May and August have 5 Sundays. The Unity Mass before the pandemic was planned for the 5th Sunday of the month. The Clergy Council, Liturgy Committee, and Community Life are asked to do the planning. CPRM will also be involved in the planning. Anitha Madanu will ask Fr. Chinnappa for any music to be included in the Unity Mass.

- 4.6 2021 Goals: Using S.M.A.R.T. guidelines and reviewing 2020 goals not accomplished, the following are 2021 goals:

Twenty new members by year end

Maintain membership through in-reach actions (follow-thru contact and personal welcome).

Build alternative funding sources:

Birthdays on Facebook—Users of FB can establish Saint Matthew as their charity on their birthday.

Fr. Arturo: We need to build our ministries by reaching out to Saint Matthew members not involved. Also keep the ministries simple. Remember people are volunteers. Do not add extras to the ministries. The ministries are the life stream of Saint Matthew.

The website has increased in "likes" from 1,000 a year ago to 1,300 in virtual outreach. The question is how to keep people who have relocated as virtual and how to invite virtual viewers to become new members. Holy Spirit Ecumenical Services has more than 5,000 views.

It was noted that a previous member who relocated tithes. Last Christmas Service had over 1,000 watching.

Grant Writing: The question arose if there was some grant writing going on. Previous PC meetings discussed this topic at length that grant writing needs to be very specific with statistical facts. There is no grant writing being done as of now. It was proposed that a Grant Writing Team be created and there was a proposal for a goal of identifying a grant to pursue in the future for Saint Matthew. Further discussion was tabled.

5. New Business:

5.1 Annual Ministry Fair (virtual): All ministries can be highlighted periodically. Each ministry can submit a flyer or presentation of their activities to CPRM. The Fair will be virtual and each ministry can coordinate with CPRM.

6. Report from the Pastor: A pastoral team has been established. Had a meeting with Deacon Adeliah and will have a meeting with women clergy. Wants to have a meeting with each ministry to know what is happening and what they need. Had a meeting with the Filipino community at the First Friday Mass. Meet with Bishop Peter regarding how the church is meeting goals. Contributions for the church are result of a good pastoral program. COVID offered a time to restructure and reorganize. Looking for success with the virtual ministry fair.

7. Reports from Standing Ministries

Building & Property Management: First meeting was held. Meetings are 3rd Thursday of the month. Soundproofing of doors is on hold. Looking into security & alarm next month. Seating chart being revised for social distancing and videoing. Jason will check on grout around tile. Rental agreement with Bishop Andy Bills for his office and the insurance situation being revisited. The fire extinguishers are being checked and need to be recharged. The A-C filters need to be changed now per Jason. Need to use form to inform Parish Council of any maintenance needed.

Minutes posted from Community Life and Bldg./Property Management.

Environmental Stewardship: Some members do not belong to Saint Matthew—Andy, Brother Christopher and Gene. Members being trained in “Just Faith” program to offer the course at Saint Matthew thru others. It is an 8-week course. The hope is to do a program on water and air. Mariah will send a copy of the flyer to CPRM after February 11. Zoom classes are presently planned and a donation will be asked.

8. Additional Items:

Jennie Guida purchased PC lapel pin to be used for the introductions on the video.

Sharon Smith thanked everyone for their prayers for Mother Diane and for herself. In four weeks Mother Diane will have operations. She presently is in a board and care home. You can text her and she will call you to visit.

Father Arturo offered a closing prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:54 pm.

Minutes prepared on February 15, 2021 by Doris Hand.