

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING JUNE 8, 2021**  
**SAINT MATTHEW ECUMENICAL CATHOLIC CHURCH**

The zoom meeting was called to order by Tonya Adams at

7:02 pm.

**Opening Prayer** was given by Bishop Peter Hickman.

**Roll & Quorum determination:**

Parish Council Members: Tonya Adams, Mariah Doyle-Sandoval, Jennie Guida, Joshua Cruz, Rosa Isela Lopez, Sharon Smith, Lydia Russo, Polly Touhey, and Anitha Madanu.

Council Members Absent: Stephany Crisantos, Doris Hand and Ana Diaz

Non-council members: Bishop Peter Hickman, Mirella Hickman, Paul Schumaker, Deacon Tammy Fuqua, Mother Jetty van den Berghe, Mother Martha Rogers, Mother Diane Smith, Deacon Tony Russo, John Deane, Fr. Arturo Querijero, Fr. Chinnappa Madanu, Br Christopher.

A quorum is present for the meeting.

**Opening Remarks by Chairperson:**

Chairperson Tonya Adams reminded everyone that they can send her agenda items at any time. The meeting will follow the posted agenda and any items not on the agenda can be discussed at the end of the meeting.

**Decisions and Votes:**

After stating modifications to the May minutes, the council agreed to approve the modified May minutes via a subsequent email vote. Tonya made a motion to vote on the revised constitution during the July meeting. Lydia Russo seconded the motion. **Passed unanimously. None opposed.**

**Approve Minutes of Prior Meeting:**

Council member Sharon Smith had a change to the minutes. The presentation on Ministry CPRM Spotlight was Sharon and Stephany Crisantos and not Mo. Diane Smith.

Council member Mariah Doyle-Sandoval also had a change to the minutes. The Mother's Day Plant Sale earned \$415.50, not \$450.50. Mariah also needed a rewrite of paragraph 4 on page 2.

Tonya has another change to the minutes. The amount suggested in the past budget for the musician was agreed to \$75 per week, not \$150. That line will need to be stricken from the minutes.

Tonya asked for all to submit their changes to her. She will edit the minutes and send a summary and the modified minutes to everyone. The council will then have an email vote to accept the minutes as modified.

### **Old Business from Previous PC Meetings:**

Finance Report from Deacon Tony Russo:

Income: we received \$763 from the Clothing Drive. The Weekly Offerings were up because of May having 5 Sundays. Rental income was at \$2,500.

Expenses: For flowers and candles, \$200 which is typical. We are looking at the lease for the church's copier. It is currently at \$200 per month. Mirella Hickman will study how many copies are made each month. We are looking to use the monitors in the church to show the homilies, announcements and other church items. Suggestion is to hire Matthew Hickman to run the system. Suggested pay was for \$50 per week.

Deacon Tony reported that the church had approximately \$5,000 in profit for the month of May.

There was then a discussion on Matthew's duties. Tonya reported that Jim Tuma was paid \$400 per month for his work with the Audio/Visual system. The budget would have to be amended. Matthew would also need others to help.

Fr. Arturo Querijero asked about the church's mortgage. It currently is \$216,784. Coming down slowly. More will be paid when we can.

The funding of the churches ministries was now discussed. All ministries, suggested Fr. Arturo, should be self-funding. Each ministry should have a treasurer and give a report to the Finance Committee. Deacon Tony offered to show each ministry what to do and instruct the ministry treasurers on their duties. Tonya suggested that all fund raising be coordinated. Fr. Arturo reported that the new Youth Group will do their own fundraising and that the ministries will grow given the chance. Jennie Guida suggested that all ministries dialogue with each other to make sure there is no overlap. Bulletin boards are being created to list the church's activities. Tonya reminded the council liaisons to report what is going on with their ministries and to work together. This topic will be put on the agenda for the next meeting. Mo. Jetty reminded everyone to be careful with the funding requirements. Tonya then tabled further discussion of Ministry Funding.

A motion was made to appoint Matthew Hickman as the church's Content Provider. Polly Touhey reported that Matthew will be the fourth person on the church's payroll.

Mirella will ask Matthew to write a job description for the position. Tonya tabled the motion until the next meeting.

#### Revised Constitution Report from Tonya:

The revised constitution has been completed and was presented to the Parish Council. It will be voted on next month. Mariah said great job was done and thanked Mo. Diane and the committee. Mo. Diane then asked Bishop Peter Hickman to comment on the revised constitution. Bishop Peter was pleased with the work done and agrees with the revisions. The Clergy Council recommends approval. The Ecumenical Catholic Communion seeks to control St. Matthew's. The revised constitution ensures our independence. Mo. Diane appreciated the hard work of the laity. Tonya would like the revised constitution to be presented in the July Parish Council meeting for a vote. Bishop Peter should ascend his approval. Tonya made a motion to vote on the revised constitution during the July meeting. Lydia Russo seconded the motion. **Passed unanimously. None opposed.**

Council member Anitha Madanu asked if Clergy Council meetings can be open to observers like the Parish Council meetings. Mo. Diane reported that the meetings are not open because a lot of the items discussed are confidential and we must respect the privacy of those involved. Anita then asked why are the Parish Council meetings opened to observers. Tonya said the Parish Council meetings are the voice of the laity. She explained the difference between the two councils. Transparency is only with the Parish Council.

#### Musician Fee for Spanish Mass from Fr. Arturo:

The cost for a professional musician is \$250 per session. \$100 for a mariachi band. The musician used now, George, is paid \$150. We cannot afford to pay for a professional musician. Because of George's participation, membership at the 12:30 Mass has increased by 2/3. He is also teaching music. Tonya suggested that we promote the musicians somehow. Mo. Jetty said we should add the musicians to the church's videos.

#### Social Justice Clothing Collection from Doris Hand:

The collection is for a home, Grandma's House. We need boys clothes and shoes. A question was asked where to store the items. Doris said she would take the items home if there is no place to store them. The announcement should be in the bulletin.

#### St. Matt's After Dark - Multicultural Music Night from Doris:

The night is October 23, 2021 at 7:00pm. We are getting two performers for each event.

#### St. Matthew Bulletin Translation from Tonya:

No report because of the absence of Ana Diaz.

#### **New Business:**

Youth Group Kickoff from Joshua Cruz:

The Youth Group will have their kickoff on July 11th after the 12:30 Mass. The kickoff has two purposes. To have the youth get to know each other and to connect with St. Matthew's. The fund raiser at the kickoff is a food sale. Joshua is getting flyers made. He will post the kickoff details on the church's Facebook page. He asked that before the youth work with other ministries that he be allowed to build up the group.

CPRM: Ministries Wish List from Sharon:

On the church's website Giving page, there should be a way to make a donation for a specific ministry. They need item and cost used for each ministry.

St. Matthew Calling Tree from Jennie:

Nothing is happening on creating the calling tree. Cards are being sent out each month, averaging 25 to 30 cards each month. A new mailing list is being created for visitors to the church.

### **Report from the Parish Pastor:**

Fr. Arturo congratulated everyone on a job well done. The church has had positive money for the last 6 months. The role of the laity will be increased. We should be a pilgrim church.

### **Reports from Standing Ministry Teams:**

Mo. Martha Rogers reported that the survey on Church Education received 52 responses. This will help to set the schedule for the next year. She will need volunteers for some of the sessions suggested.

Jennie reported that tickets for the Clergy Dinner will start on June 27th. A flyer is being created for this event. Plans for Movie night on July 17th are being finalized. Reminder of the Unity Mass on August 29th at the church.

Mariah reported that there is one more class for the Food and Farming course the ESM is sponsoring. There is a field trip planned on June 26th to a local farm in San Juan Capistrano. We will have the Food and Farming course again in the fall if there is enough interest. Need at least six students.

There were no additional items.

Fr. Arturo lead us in a closing prayer.

Meeting adjourned by Tonya at 9:02pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Br Christopher