

Church of St Matthew Parish Council

Monthly Meeting Notes 2023

Meeting Notes for January 26, 2023

Members Present: Jerald Dosch, Kathy Goldenstein, Phil Grant (ex-officio), Maggie Lee, Janelle Rohr, Ellen Schneider, Linda Sellars, Karen Thompson (trustee, ex-officio)

Absent: Zach Czaia, Anthony Minus

Guests:

Zoom meeting began at 7pm.

Members approved notes from the previous meeting.

Finance Council Report: New Member: Richard Dunn. Joe Stevens has left the committee after 10+ years of service. November financials are ahead of Budget. Weekend Collections are running slightly behind since the start of the new FY. Bequest from Harry Selken (resident of Cerenity Humboldt). When received will set up a Catholic Community Foundation Account and will use the interest for capital improvements.

Listening Weekend: Envelopes to donate to the Capital Fund; where are they and can they be available in the back of church? Slippery sidewalks and corners not being shoveled make it risky for some to attend church in the winter.

Synod Update: 6 members from St. Matt's and 6 members from St. Stan's will make up our Evangelization Team. Current St. Matt's members are: Karen Thompson, Becky Montgomery, Suzanne Clarke. Kathy Goldenstein will be the Parish Council representative. Karen asked for names of other parishioners we might ask to join the team. Training will begin on February 7 and run for 6 weeks. Training meetings will be at St. Thomas More or the Cathedral.

Partnering with Other Parishes: As noted above, members discussed continuing talks with St. Stanislaus about working together on Synod-related activities. Phil and Kim (parish administrator at St. Stan's) have been communicating, they are eager to partner with us.

Parish Youth Engagement: Hosted a successful bowling party over the Christmas break. Invited the COS choir and middle school and high school Faith Formation to attend. Approximately 20 choir members attended with around 5 adults including Karen Thompson and Maggie Lee as chaperones. Next event is set for Saturday, February 4 – movie night (Ratatouille) in the social hall. Popcorn, snacks and drinks will be provided. COS families have been invited. Doors open at 6:30, movie at 7:00. Maggie, Karen, Ellen and Linda have offered to host; other parish council members are also invited to attend if they are able.

Parish Council Visibility: Elevator speeches from parish council members were great. Next steps: Karen will work on a poster with our pictures and our statements that could be displayed either in the back of church or social hall. Phil suggested we also run our pictures and statements in the bulletin. They could also be posted on the website.

Recruitment of new parish council members should begin soon. Members are asked to bring names to the February meeting. We currently have 8 members, our constitution allows for 9 members. Two members will be leaving in May – Linda and Janelle. Interested parishioners would be invited to attend the March or April meeting and then attend a more in depth informational meeting in May after which discernment occurs and then new members are seated on Pentecost (May 28).

Solar Panels: Kathy will check with MNIPL regarding tax rebate for new roof and electrical panels.

Liaison Reports: Reports were provided prior to the meeting. QUANTUM report not included because their meetings are the day before Parish Council. Becky Montgomery is the liaison to QUANTUM. They have increased their enrollment and are current on their rent. They currently have a 2 year lease, Phil will be meeting with them to extend the lease.

Parish Website: Angela is getting training to post to the website. Phil and Angela are meeting with Richard Schletty and will discuss with him his desired level of involvement.

New Business: Maggie asked if there would be any interest in getting involved with the new Refugee Program that just began through the federal government. Something to think about though we already provided services through Casa Guadalupana to immigrants.

Linda mentioned the poetry that is on the sidewalk along Robie Street. Asked if we had any input as to what was put there, Phil said we did not.

Adjourned: 8:18 PM