

**Attendance:**

Council Members: Jennie Guida, Meredythe Hutchinson, Norma Lanfray, Rosa Isela Lopez, Sharon Smith, Stephany Crisantos, Susan Morano, Tonya Adams, Bob Morano

Non-Council members in Attendance: Bishop Peter Hickman, Fr. Arturo Querijero, Deacon Tony Russo, Business Manager Kathryn Tuma, John Deane

**Brief Orientation / Introduction Meeting Date:**

Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM

**Decisions / Votes:**

- Confirmed Bob Morano as moderator. Jennie Guida raised the motion. Susan Morano second the motion.
- Confirmed Meredythe Hutchinson as co-moderator. Tonya Adams raised the motion. Jennie Guida second the motion.
- Confirmed first business meeting with new council scheduled for December 17, 2019 @ 6:30 PM

**Discussions / Topics:***Tony Russo:*

Brought meeting to order.

Announced intention to expand council to twelve members. Explained the structure of Parish Council is to elect a moderator and an assistant moderator; the moderator should change every year; assistant moderator takes meeting minutes and becomes moderator following year. Requested that members assign their vote ("proxy") if they plan to be absent for a meeting. Asked members to review the ministries and decide on which to join. Announced the tradition of bringing snacks to council meetings and suggested a sign-up/rotation sheet be distributed. Announced practice of monthly meetings scheduled on second Tuesday of each month.

Requested that council members send a brief "bio" paragraph detailing their strengths and skills.

Requested that all council members attend a meeting at church on December 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm to meet with Bishops Denise and Kedda. The discussion at Bishop's meeting should be considered confidential.

Reminded the members that they are representatives of St. Matthews and their conversation / language should be positive to the laity.

*Bishop Peter Hickman:*

Delivered opening prayer.

Stressed importance of mobilizing the lay people (laity). Emphasized the need to build unity and solidarity. Detailed the tasks ahead:

- Better integrate the community

- Reforms to be made. Need to attract new people and keep visitors coming back.
- Leave behind something for next generation/need to survive/attract younger priests.
- Announced spiritual retreat for the Council on Saturday, January 25, 2020 at 9:00 am.

*Fr. Arturo Querijero:*

Consider the strength of both communities (English-speaking, and Hispanic)

Discussed St Matthews Youth Group

Mentioned Fr. Chinnappa Madanu's newly forming Indian community

*Council Member Discussions:*

Each member addressed the group and delivered a brief bio about themselves.

Jennie Guida volunteered to bring snacks for the December 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. Jennie also suggested that we design/produce/distribute a "St Matthew Intro" pamphlet/form in the chairs which can be accessed by visitors during the service. Jennie gave, as an example, the document placed in the pews at Trinity Episcopal Church.

Bob Morano announced that Doris Hand volunteered to take council minutes.

Kathryn Tuma mentioned the recent donation which brought the income deficit into a healthier position.

Discussion among the members dealing with a new / modified / amended St Matthew Constitution - - as a Parish Council task for 2020.