

Saint Matthews Parish Council

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: August 11, 2020

Meeting Time: 6:30 PM

A Zoom – online meeting

Meeting Moderator: Robert J. (Bob) Morano

1. **Opening Prayer** – Bishop Peter
2. **Roll & Quorum** determination

Name:	Pres or Abs
Bob Morano (Moderator)	Present
Adams, Tonya	Present
Crisantos, Stephany	Present
Cruz, Joshua	absent
Guida, Jennie	Present
Hutchinson, Meredythe (Asst. Moderator)	Present
Lopez, Rosa Isela	Present
Morano, Susan	Present
Ninichuck, Bertie	Present
Ottone, Remo	Present
Smith, Sharon	Present
Bishop Peter Hickman	Present
Father Arturo Querijero	Present

Other Attendees:

Doris Hand, Mirella Hickman, Mo. Diane Smith, Katie & Nancy Henry, Bea Tiritilli, Paul Schumaker, John Deane, Deacon Tony Russo

3. **Opening Remarks** by Moderator

Recognition:

Matthew Hickman for taking the initiative to advertise for Saint Matthews on Facebook and Instagram out of his own pocket. Also, on this same point, Justin is tracking the source of the website traffic. Thanks again Justin for your help in determining the effectiveness of this advertising.

Deacon Tammy for policing troll activity on our Facebook account. She had to take down some inappropriate photos. Tamy was unable to get onto tonight's call.

To all ministry liaison members. Please make sure to include your clergy council members on your zoom meeting invitations, reports and email. If you are uncertain as to who they are, there is a document on the ministry reports webpage for each ministry entitled "Goals and Members".

4. **Old Business from previous PC meetings:**

4.1 Financial report as of August for July 2020.

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The July financials indicate that we had a loss of \$3,841. While not good this is not tragic. We continue to work on our revenue generating capabilities. **Restated for a mistake in transfers from savings the actual loss is \$5,841.**

On July 21, Bob built a GoFundMe webpage for boosting income to support operational expenses. Webpage can be found at: https://www.gofundme.com/f/saint-matthew-ecumenical-catholic-church?utm_source=customer&utm_medium=copy_link&utm_campaign=p_cf+share-flow-1

We also began working with Duke Forbes the CPA from across the parking lot who has been helping us with our tax reporting for years. Duke is now going to help us with our book keeping starting with the chart of accounts and the financials we run. Duke met with Mirella, Tony and I (Bob) on Wednesday, August 4, 2020. Duke has been working in QuickBooks for over 20 years and has some considerable expertise to share with us. We are excited at having his help and we are looking forward to our next set of financials.

4.2 Food donations/collections for the WSWA

Meredythe assembled documentation and photos for all food drives from May 7th through July 19. These were uploaded to the <https://saint-matthew.org/ministries/reports/> webpage. Hours for Food Drive were changed to 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Volunteers for August 2nd food drive were Mark Querijero, Doris and Chuck Hand, Bob and Susan Morano, Jennie Guida and John Deane.

Deacon Tammy Fuqua created a poster to advertise the Food Drive. Posters will be attached to the sandwich boards positioned on Town and Country entrance during the Food Drive Sundays. Poster includes our “QR” code.

Bea discussed that the WSWA people and they are grateful. She also explained that the hours were changed to make it easier to get people to cover the donations table. Susan added that in the heat of the summer the shorter hours will be easier on the volunteers.



4.3 Saint Matthew Building Sign (facing Town and Country)

On July 20th Justin Veiga created eight different mock-ups of a new sign. Parish Council members and others voted on these alternatives. Version shown below received the most votes. Justin emailed two more options for wording on this sign to Bob Morano on July 30th.

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The various sign mock ups were circulated to the Parish Council and other members of the community to see if there was a favorite. By an overwhelming majority, sign configuration #7 was selected by the PC and the other members. The mock up of sign #7 is shown in the picture above. Many thanks to Justin for his making these mockups allowing us to visualize the various choices that we had.

There was a substantial discussion about the colors and content of the sign and the logo. It is not being used by the Hispanic community. There continues to be controversy about the new sign. Not everyone likes the hands or the color. Rather that sustain a debate which can not be resolved in a parish council meeting, after listening to many of the members and the laity, we agreed to pass this issue back to the clergy council for their resolution. Mother Diane and Bishop Peter agreed to this as a solution. Therefore, we will again take up the sign and the logo at the next parish council meeting. We will begin with the recommendation from the clergy council. Mother Diane committed to discussing this at the clergy council meeting in the beginning of September and hopefully bringing us a resolution.

4.4 2020 Parish Council Introductions to Community

All ten council members sent photos. These were sent to Justin for display on <https://saint-matthew.org/parish-council/> website.

4.5 Tri-Fold Full Color Saint Matthew Pamphlet

On July 19th Sharon Smith installed two brochure holders on Saint Matthew building near entrance doors. These holders will make the brochure accessible to Town and Country plaza visitors. This is especially beneficial during the COVID-19 mandated closures. Sharon reports that there has been no vandalism or trashing of the outdoor brochures. Only two have been taken during the last two weeks.

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Left: On window near gathering room. Right: on window near sanctuary entrance.

New Business:

5.1 Saint Matthew “Next door” Account

presented by Meredythe Hutchinson
Presented by Bea Tiritilli for Meredythe

A suggestion to get a “Next door” account for Saint Matthew to help promote events has been made. If you're not familiar with “Next door”, Bea Tiritilli describes it as Facebook for the local community - neighbors helping neighbors. The geographical reach of the Next-Door account is dependent upon the address used. Jennie has one for her neighborhood. Bea has one that she uses and she lives about 1 mile from the church. Deacon Tammy Fuqua volunteered to create and manage the account however she had difficulty getting on to the meeting. Father Arturo committed to getting one using the church's address. **There is no cost and it was agreed the there was no need for the council to vote on it. We will get a “Next Door” account.**

5.2 Proposal / Motion for 2021 PC replacement members

presented by Susan Morano

Susan informed everyone of the progress that the constitution committee is making and while it is substantial, it is insufficient to hold elections this year using the new process. We hope to complete our work by 12/31/2020. **Therefore, any PC replacements etc. will be brought on board using the old process. Everyone agreed with this.**

5.3 Proposal / Motion for Diocese Vote in 2021

presented by Bob Morano

Bob proposed that the vote on joining the LA diocese be postponed until the new year. A community vote requires a face to face discussion where the community can get their questions answered. A meeting like this is highly unlikely during the balance of 2020.

Therefore, we proposed that this be put off until 2021 when hopefully such a meeting may be able to take place. Bishop Peter, Father Arturo and Mother Diane all agreed.

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The mention of the ECC caused Jennie Guida to bring up the topic of the Synod for 2020. Do we want to participate or not? Father Arturo who has been handling the contact with the ECC people told us that there is no question, Saint Matthew is a member of the ECC regardless of our position on the diocese of LA. So, **we should prepare to participate.**

We are entitled to 5 votes and therefore we should prepare 5 delegates and some observers. Susan and Bob were tasked with communicating to the community about the people needed. They asked Father Arturo if he could give them material to work with in describing the roles of delegate and observer and the items that the ECC might be voting on this year. **Father Arturo agreed to have some materials to them within the week.**

There was extensive discussion about the ECC constitution which is not yet complete. It will be voted upon depending upon its stage of completion.

5.4 Community Life Events (Hickman Anniversary & Kathryn Tuma Retirement) presented by Jennie Guida

Jennie showed the invitation/flyer which went out before the meeting. The date of the event is 9/12/2020. Tonya will host a zoom meeting. Jennie is looking for photos or other thought/emotion provoking materials so we can put something together for Kathryn. Jennie also has a questionnaire that she wants to distribute to the possible participants.

The Hickman's wedding vow renewal party. Jennie is looking for a park and is communicating with Father Victor. Her design is for a potluck meal and she is still working on it.

Questions, Feedback, Discussion from non-council members. - none

Adjournment – Closing Prayer – Father Arturo at 8:22 PM.