

Church of St Matthew Parish Council

# Monthly Meeting Notes 2023

## Meeting Notes for April 27, 2023

Members present: Kathy Goldenstein (note taker) Maggie Lee, Anthony Minus, Janelle Rohr, Ellen Schneider (facilitator), Linda Sellars, Karen Thompson (trustee, ex-officio)

Absent: Zach Czaia, Jerald Dosch, Phil Grant (ex-officio)

Guests: Becky Montgomery (Finance Council), Richard Dunn (Finance Council), Alan Christianson (Finance Council), Susan Gehlsen (Executive Director, St. Mary's Clinic), Katie Shetka, Tara Perron, Jose Garcia

Prior to the Parish Council Meeting members of the parish council and finance council shared a meal and discussed our Five Year Vision. Consensus that we need to plan for the eventual retirement of Fr. Steve Adrian (he will be 86 in five years). Parish needs to be the attraction. Perhaps meet with other parishes such as St. Joan of Arc, St. Francis Cabrini or Lumen Christi to learn how their leadership and parishioner involvement could be used at St. Matt's. What can we control? Focus on what we can control.

Parish council meeting began at 7:02 pm

Ellen led the reflection

Notes from the March 2023 meeting were approved.

**Introductions:** Due to the large number of guests, council members and guests introduced themselves and gave a short reason for their being at the meeting.

**St. Mary's Clinic:** Sue Gehlsen, Executive Director of St. Mary's Clinic, shared with the group a short history of the Clinics which began in 1992. St. Matthew's was one of the first clinics opened in July of 1992. The Clinic has six sites and 10 sessions weekly. St. Matthew's hosts two teams on Wednesday in the AM and PM. In 2022 the clinics served 15,000 people. Their services are free and serve mostly those who are uninsured or ineligible for insurance because of the documentation status. The clinic is in partnership with the Mexican and Ecuadorian consulates and will provide mobile clinic services when the consulates travel in outstate Minnesota. Clients of St. Mary's Clinic have seen our flyers about the E-Box Fundraiser and have been contributing to it. She presented us with an envelope of the most recent donations from those clients.

**Listening Weekend:** Nothing to report

**Community Engagement, May 2:** Karen invited everyone to participate. She gave us an overview of the process. Process was initiated by Fr. Steve's idea to see what is happening in the community; what other organizations are doing; where can we as a parish make a difference; and can this lead people back to the parish. The Child Care in the late 1990's grew out of a similar endeavor; NEDA and Crime prevention initiatives also grew out of this endeavor

in the 1990's. Inviting parishioners, organizations on the West Side, political representatives to reflect on 3 questions:

1. Based on your experience and your organization's work, what do you think are the top three needs of the West Side community?
2. What resources do we currently have to address those needs?
3. What additional resources do we need?

Meeting begins at 6:30 with an optional start at 5:30 to share a meal with the Loaves & Fishes community. Meeting will be in the Social Hall. Parish Council members are asked to attend if able and to provide hospitality as table hosts and leaders.

### **Ongoing Parish Initiatives**

#### **Parish Council Recruitment, discernment, & onboarding**

- There are 5 parishioners who have expressed an interest. Three joined us for the meeting this month - Katie, Jose and Tara.
- Kathy will send Council by laws and constitution as well as the roles and responsibilities of council members to prospective members for them to review/pose any questions
- Kathy and the prospective members will determine if an information night is also needed to be held before May 25, the next parish council meeting
- Prospective members will inform the council by May 25 if they wish to join council
- New members will begin their 3 year term in June

#### **Synod Update:**

- Next step in the Archdiocese process is small groups. At this time there is no plan to participate at St. Matt's.
- Kathy proposed the council review the book, "Keeping the Covenant" as a tool to refocus and re-engage parishioners in leadership roles at St. Matt's.
- Further discussion tabled until May meeting

#### **Invite Someone to Mass - April 30**

- Tabled due to lack of planning
- Aim to do in the fall

#### **PC Hosting Coffee Sunday - May 7**

- Ellen will coordinate
- Need volunteers for set up, during the event and clean up
- Need donations of baked goods or other breakfast items
- Ellen will send out email inviting parish council members to volunteer

### **New Business**

**National Night Out:** Ellen will investigate information regarding National Night out and bring to the May meeting

**Parish Picnic/Mass:** Cherokee Park Pavilion has been reserved. Linda will find out from Angela the date - will either be Sunday, August 13 or August 20.

Next Meeting: May 25, 2023. Maggie is on for Note taker, will check with Jerald to see if he is available to be facilitator.

Meeting adjourned at 8:46 pm