

# ST. MATTHEW MEN'S CLUB

130 ST. MATTHEW ST. GREEN BAY, WI 54301 (920) 435-6811 FAX (920) 435-0065

## Minutes of St. Matthew Men's Club September 07, 2023

Our September meeting was called to order at 7:04pm by President Greg Simonson with a loud rap on the table from his new, blaze orange hammer he calls a gavel. There were approximately 15 members in attendance including officers. A rowdy bunch indeed. Vice President Steve Lealou opened with a prayer asking the Lord for guidance over the new fiscal year.

Greg then asked the newly elected officers to introduce themselves, so we did. Bob Olson as Treasurer, Doug Hutchison as Secretary, Greg Simonson as President and Steve Lealou as Vice President. A silent round of applause greeted these fine men as well as a few shouts of "thank you" for their service.

*Side Note: As you see, legendary Peter Kirschling's name is not mentioned as Sec/Trea for the first time in nearly 70 years, nor was he in attendance. Former President Rob Atwood made it be known that Peter has just stepped aside from the duties of Sec/Trea but has not stepped away from the Men's Club. He had a prior commitment that evening to relive his youth by attending a 60's concert.*

The Minutes of the May 4<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved. Treasurer Bob Olson then reported a balance on hand, as of August 31, of \$17,896.07 with an outstanding balance of \$2,273.28 due to Hilly Haven for the golf outing, leaving an actual balance on hand of \$15,622.79. There was also \$3,480.00 in the Dick VanLangendon special reserve fund. A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made and seconded and all in attendance approved.

### Communications:

Notes of thanks for Men's Club donations of funds from the 40<sup>th</sup> annual Wild Game Feed were read from the following recipients:

Teacher Mrs. Gracer

Sandy Waubanasum (sp), Green Bay East HS Social Worker on behalf of Eats for East

Jim Raymaker, Men's Club Member and alum of Green Bay East, who proudly delivered the check to the Eats for East organization

Chris and Janice Clemens, Directors of Hope Center Pantry

### Old Business:

- a. Harry LaTour Golf Outing and Steak Fry: 56 golfers, 8 for dinner only. Just about broke even. Many commented on how good the meal was this year. Thanks Biebel's Catering!!
- b. Dick Van's Memorial: Nothing new from the committee. Rob Atwood, committee member, assured the group that the committee will meet and bring suggestions to the October meeting. Concern is how to come up with something meaningful to remember a man that provided so much to not only the Men's Club but the Parish as a whole
- c. Pheasant Cleaning (late addition to the agenda): Ken Moes reminded us that he will lead a group of volunteers to clean pheasants. Date and location to be determined. Jason has reached out to the dog club for more information. Details will be shared via email once we have them.
- d. Not on agenda but important reminder: Dan Keirnan reminded the group that he is stepping away as the point person for the wild game feed and asked for volunteers to step up and take over.

That led to a conversation regarding the game feed. Rob threw out a question to the group "Is it time to retire or rethink the game feed?" He noted there are options the group should consider such as looking at other venues that would provide all the prep, cooking, serving etc. It was noted that a venue change is not so much as the dollars generated from the game feed but lack of volunteers needed to make it a quality event. Two options brought up were the Swan Club. Doug mentioned the owner had inquired if the Men's

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Club would consider his venue as the first Thursday in March is a slow time for him and he would welcome a discussion. The other was The Marq. Rob had a conversation with them and it sounded like a viable option. Doug & Rob volunteered to get more details on each. They will provide their findings at the October meeting.

That led to another discussion regarding the purpose/mission of the Men's Club. Are we becoming a "wild game feed" club? Is that why folks stop coming to meetings and membership has declined and the younger men of the Parish are not joining? That led us to get back on agenda and get to New Business.

## **New Business:**

b. (Yes, we started with "b") Membership Initiative/Recruiting: Greg said his goal as President is to get back to being a social club as our founders intended. Ideas included, but not limited to, were an Easter egg hunt, breakfast with Santa, and a pancake breakfast. Some events could be Men's Club members only, others could be open to members and their families others open to all, such as the tailgates. Some could be fund-raising events, others just social events. Greg mentioned he is going to try and get some time to address the Parish after masses.

a. Calendar/Upcoming Events: The following events were scheduled for the upcoming year:

October 5, 2023:	Shrimper/Outdoor Game Night (October will be a "recruiting" month)
November 2, 2023:	Veteran's Night
December 7, 2023:	Christmas Social with Tom & Jerrys
January 4, 2024:	Bowling-TBD
February 1, 2024:	Wild Game Feed Planning/Cribbage Tourney
March 7, 2024:	41 <sup>st</sup> Annual Charity Wild Game Feed
April 4, 2024:	Easter Event
May 2, 2024:	WGF Funds Distribution/Cleaning of the Closet/Summer Events/Election of Officers

c. Meeting Area: In order to avoid any conflicts/issues with GRACE it was decided that our meetings will take place in the Church Gathering space. There's plenty of space and everything needed is readily on hand. Greg mentioned that the parish went to a fob system to enter the buildings and has granted the Men's Club access. We will have access to the old kitchen if needed.

d. Meeting with Stacy at Parish office: Greg met with Stacy and shared it went very well. Stacy assured him that the Parish is very supportive of the Men's Club and events they would like to put on. She let him know the parish went to a fob system to enter the buildings and granted the Men's Club access. We will have access to the old kitchen if needed as well.

## **Open Floor/Announcements:**

President Simonson again reiterated the idea of "going old school". Discussion ensued about getting back to being a social club with "Come have some Fun!" as the theme of future meetings.

Having no further business to tend to, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:06pm. A social ensued with a hearty selection of snacks and beverages.

Respectfully submitted,  
Doug Hutchison  
Secretary

**Next Meeting:** October 5, 2023 7:00pm Church Gathering Space (Shrimper/Game Night)