

**MINUTES OF ST. MARK'S VESTRY MEETING
ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, WASHINGTON, DC**

PRESENT:

Clergy: Paul Abernathy, Rector; Justi Schunior, Associate Rector

Wardens: Cecilia Monahan, Senior Warden

Vestry Members: Bill Dickinson, Rick Hayes, Grady Hedgespeth, Amy Kovac-Ashley, Charlotte Murray, Marilu Sherer, Jim Steed, Pam Lacey, Janet Vail

Officers: Crane Miller, Treasurer; Mary Cooper, Register; Susan Sedgewick, Manciple Co-ordinator

Absent: Phil Guire, Junior Warden

Visitor: Kenn Allen

OFFICER REPORTS

Register: The minutes of the December and January meetings were distributed electronically. Vestry member Bill Dickinson moved, Vestry member Marilu Sherer seconded, and the Vestry concurred that the minutes of both meetings be **APPROVED.**

The Register circulated a roster, requesting that Vestry members sign up for Vestry Greeter duty for the balance of the first half of the year. Given the difficulty of getting people to commit to this responsibility, Vestry member Jim Steed asked why we continue with this custom. The Rector responded that it is an important way of demonstrating to newcomers that leadership in the parish is shared between the clergy and the people.

Treasurer: Treasurer Miller said the December report would be e-mailed soon. The January report is not ready yet. The Finance Committee will prepare a budget for the March meeting. Completion of reports has been hindered by the move of the church office from Baxter House to the trailers.

Rector: The Rector announced that the March Vestry meeting will be on March 17 and that the agenda will include at least the 2013 budget and conversation with the Outreach Board.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL REPORT TO THE DIOCESE

The annual report was circulated electronically. Vestry member Dickinson expressed surprise at the amount shown as having been paid on the capital campaign. The Treasurer responded that the figures in the report end at December 30 and that several major pledgers have begun paying their pledges since that time.

Vestry member Dickinson asked why the parish did not pay its commitment to the Diocese in full. The Rector explained that the statement arrived late from Church House, thus causing the payment to be made late. The obligation has, in fact, been paid in full, although that is not what is reflected on the annual report.

Vestry member Dickinson moved, Vestry member Steed seconded (pending filling in a few blanks), and the Vestry concurred that the Annual Parochial Report be **APPROVED.**

PROPOSAL RELATED TO LORETTA VENNEY'S BOOK

Jan Lipscomb submitted a proposal to the Vestry electronically requesting permission to have a book-signing at St. Mark's for Loretta Veney's new book concerning her experiences as a caregiver to her mother. Vestry member Sherer moved, Vestry member Janet Vail seconded, and the Vestry concurred that the proposal be **APPROVED.**

REIMBURSEMENT FOR COST OF LUNCHES AT ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Vestry member Steed moved that:

The Vestry members responsible for furnishing lunch to the 2013 St. Mark's annual meeting are authorized to spend a sum not exceeding \$1500 for that purpose, on the understanding that they shall use their best efforts to keep costs as much below that figure as possible and that the Vestry shall reimburse them for their expenses.

Vestry member Dickinson seconded. The Vestry concurred and the motion was **APPROVED.**

EVERY MEMBER CANVASS FOR 2013

The Rector announced that for 2013 the parish has received 305 pledges totaling \$760,114.

Vestry member Pam Lacey suggested having informal dinners to welcome new people and engage them in supporting the parish. The Associate Rector responded that such dinners are planned but that the move from Baxter House has caused that project to fall behind.

Vestry member Grady Hedgespeth noted that bringing the people of the parish together will be challenging during the current transition and said that the new Junior Warden might work on membership development since there will be only the nave and undercroft to maintain, since Baxter House is sold and the parish hall will be under construction.

PARISH FINANCES

Vestry member Vail noted that in May 2012 the Vestry had voted to look at how our finances are handled. A committee was established, but two members resigned and the task was not completed. The issue is how to have information more readily available. The Rector expressed a preference for having the Vestry get recommendations from the Finance Committee on how to resolve these issues. He added that Susan Block has given her recommendations.

CLOSING

Retiring Senior Warden Cecilia Monahan expressed her appreciation for the opportunity to serve the parish for two years as Warden. The Rector expressed gratitude to retiring Vestry members Dickinson, Hayes and Sherer and the retiring officers, Crane Miller and Susan Sedgewick.

Submitted by
Mary Anderson Cooper, Register