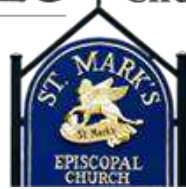


St. Mark's EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Capitol Hill

3rd & A Sts SE,
Washington, DC



Minutes of the Vestry Meeting
Sunday, April 17, 2016
1:15 p.m.

Present:

Wardens: Peter Sherer, Senior Warden
Doris Muller-Burton, Junior Warden

Vestry Members: Stephen Dalzell, Stephanie Deutsch, Thia Hamilton, Fritz Henn, Martha Huizenga, Doug Jackson, Karen Wiedemann

Officers: Mary Anderson Cooper, Register; Jack Burton, Manciple; Michael Knipe, Counsel

Absent: Vestry Members Beth Mahood and Christina White; Treasurer Andrew Stafford; The Rev. Michele Morgan, Priest-in-Charge; The Rev. Justi Schunior, Associate Rector.

Guests: Raiford Gaffney and Beryl Maloney-Lillaston

The opening prayer was offered by Stephanie Deutsch.

The minutes of the March meeting were approved electronically prior to the meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's Report was distributed electronically in advance of the meeting and presented by Assistant Treasurer Martha Huizenga. Records for 2015 are on the way to the auditor and those for 2016 are being reviewed and reconciled. The new accountant is Amy McPherson.

Budgeting was difficult for 2015 because of transition costs and having no historical basis on which to estimate income and expenses for the new building. The budgets for the clergy search process will be gathered in one place on the server for future reference. It is clear that costs need to be reduced and membership and income need to be increased.

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT: Thirty people attended the gathering at Roslyn Conference Center, where they worked on identifying parish needs and ways to meet them. The parish has lost a substantial number of pledge units in the last several years and can expect to lose more, with an aging population. New members often pledge less, so we need 50 new pledging units each year just to keep up.

Planning is underway for the parish gathering at Claggett in June. JoEllen Hayden has contributed \$1,000 toward the cost of a bus to take people to that gathering. Martha Huizenga recommended having a person from the 5 p.m. service on the planning committee. The goal is to have 150 attendees at the gathering.

Sign-ups are going well for the small dinner gatherings with Michele Morgan and all parishioners are invited and encouraged to sign up and attend.

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT: The Junior Warden's report was distributed electronically prior to the meeting. The new cleaning company, PMM, starts work on April 18.

There will be a Parish Work Day on May 7 to clean up the garden and the building. A skilled painter is needed.

YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES: The written report covered many activities. Summer Sunday School will include both worship and service activities.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: The newcomer forms on the back of the bulletins are working well. New name tags are coming soon. Ideas generated at the Roslyn gathering are being shared with the Committee.

Karen Weidemann said that the Membership Committee needs to be better connected with other parish activities. New members of the committee are needed. Stephanie Deutsch noted that parents who don't attend church but send their children to Sunday School should be targeted as potential members.

COMMUNICATIONS: Martha Huizenga reported that progress is being made on the new website and the hope is to launch it before the end of May.

NEW BUSINESS: The Diocesan alcohol policy was shared for information, with a vote next month on adoption of those guidelines for ourselves. Steve Dalzell noted that these guidelines mean that there would be no hard alcohol permitted at parish events. The policy will likely be appended to the contract for use of our building by other groups.

WHAT'S WORKING/WHAT'S NOT?

The Junior Warden said that people are still leaving dirty dishes in the kitchen rather than cleaning up after themselves or their group's use of Baxter Hall.

Fritz Henn reported that an impermeable wall will need to be installed in the Third Street Parking to protect the parallel undercroft wall for the rain garden to be a viable choice, as we must protect the building first and foremost. A plaque, now being refurbished, will be re-

installed there in memory of Gene St. Germaine, to acknowledge his family's contribution to the garden.

Arrangements with affiliated groups need to be reviewed to comply with audit requirements. They are a key part of parish life and our relationship with them needs to be formalized and clarified.

Jack Burton asked for feedback on how the effort to make the cherry blossom design on the wall in Baxter Hall more visible has been received. The response has been mixed, although most members of the Vestry approve.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anderson Cooper
Register