

St. Mark's EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Capitol Hill

3rd & A Sts SE,
Washington, DC



Minutes of the Vestry Meeting

Sunday, May 20, 2018

1:15 p.m.

Present:

Clergy: The Rev. Michele Morgan, Rector; The Rev. Scott Lipscomb, Assistant Rector;
The Rev. Cindy Dopp, Deacon

Wardens: Nora Howell, Senior Warden; Kenn Allen, Junior Warden

Vestry Members: Jim Brooks, Tracy Councill, Stephanie Deutsch, Thia Hamilton, Christina Herman, Beth Mahood

Officers: Mary Anderson Cooper, Register; John Edwards, Assistant Treasurer; Rosemary Harold, Counsel

Absent: Vestry Members Amber Macdonald, Brandon Dunn Knight, Alix Pereira, Martha Huizenga, Treasurer

Tracy Councill offered the opening prayer. The Rector chaired the meeting which began with sharing of personal and professional updates by members of the group.

MINUTES OF THE APRIL MEETING. The minutes of the April meeting were distributed electronically prior to the meeting and posted on the Google Drive. Christina Herman moved, seconded by Kenn Allen, and the Vestry concurring unanimously that the minutes be **APPROVED.**

TREASURER'S REPORT: Assistant Treasurer John Edwards reported that the financial situation is basically good, with most accounts where they should be in conjunction with the budget. Plate offerings are a little bit low and office supplies are running somewhat over budget because of the number of groups that are using the building and doing photocopying. The Finance Committee will discuss this situation and make a recommendation about whether charges need to be increased.

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT: The Junior Warden reviewed the contents of a very lengthy report that was earlier posted on the Google Drive. He reported that a huge amount of work is needed on the tower and the west side of the nave, especially in the chapel area. Although there are many areas where brick pointing is needed, the east side and the parish hall require less work and are of lower priority.

The proposed sequence for doing the work is: (1) rebuilding of the chimney and repairs to the Northeast corner of the building; (2) planning for what is to be done on repairs to the tower next year, when work is projected to begin on the highest part that requires scaffolding; (3) in 2020, work on

the west side and the chapel, with the window sills repaired, not replaced; and (4) repairs to the east side of the nave, mostly to correct badly done repair from earlier years.

Kenn reported on two grant possibilities. An application has been made to the DC Preservation League for \$50,000. A decision is expected in early June. A second possibility is the National Fund for Sacred Places. We will know by June 28 if we will be invited to submit a proposal for a grant, which we would have to match with funds raised after October 1. Consequently, the Extended Vision campaign has been temporarily suspended pending a decision about applying for a grant.

Stephanie Deutsch moved, seconded by Jim Brooks, that we spend up to \$125,000 from the Extended Vision campaign funds for the repairs listed in the Junior Warden's report. The motion was unanimously **APPROVED.**

The Junior Warden reported that the Fabric Committee is reviewing a new proposal from a sound engineer on ways to improve the sound system in the nave.

RECTOR'S REPORT: The Rector reported that an email will be sent to parishioners regarding the temporary stopping of the Extended Vision campaign. She noted that Thia Hamilton is working on a way to make the entire 600+ page report on needed repairs available electronically. There will be parish meetings after each service on June 17 to inform the parish about the building needs.

The Rector expressed her gratitude to Assistant Rector Scott Lipscomb and Deacon Cindy Dopp for the work they are doing. She reported that "everything is forward movement", including the recent five baptisms.

She said that The Rev. William Barber and the Poor People's Campaign are gathering weekly at St. Mark's for several weeks, doing training and visiting Congress to mark the 50th anniversary of the original Poor People's Campaign.

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT: The theme for the annual parish gathering at Claggett will be "Our Community in Communion." Attendees will look at the elements of the Eucharist and address the question "What do we bring to St. Mark's and what does St. Mark's give to the world?"

She reported that Julie Murphy is taking on Parish Life leadership. Katherine Anderson will co-chair Outreach, and Elin Whitney Smith is co-chairing Arts with Tracy Council.

Discussion of the question of changing the time of Vestry meetings was postponed until the next Meeting.

LIAISON REPORTS: Jim Brooks reported that the Outreach Board has a resolution on gun violence prevention in the process of development and will bring it to the Vestry.

Stephanie Deutsch reported that Assistant Rector Scott Lipscomb is actively involved in Membership and that dinners are being planned to help him get to know parishioners.

Tracy Council reported that on June 23-24 the Arts Council is sponsoring a showing of art produced by our late parishioner, David Evelyn, with a luncheon on the 24th. The art will be for sale and part of the proceeds will go to St. Mark's.

NEXT MEETING: Because of the Town Hall meetings on June 17, the next meeting of the Vestry will be Sunday, June 24.

The Vestry then went into Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anderson Cooper, Register