

**Minutes of the Vestry meeting
Monday, November 18, 2019
6:30 pm - 8:32 pm**

Present:

Clergy: Rev. Michele Morgan, Rector
Wardens: Jim Pittman, Junior Warden
Vestry: Kit Arrington, Tracy Councill, Christina Herman, Amber Macdonald, Alix Pereira, Shay Waye

Officers: Vacant, Register (Kit took notes)
John Edwards, Treasurer

Absent: Warden: Ryan Baugh, Senior Warden
Vestry member: Jim Brooks, Brandon Dunn Knight, Andrew Stafford, Rosemary Harold, Counsel

Also: Kim Bayliss

The opening prayer was offered by Rev. Michele Morgan. The Rector presided.

Amber moved to approve the October minutes; Jim seconds. Minutes accepted by unanimous vote.

What's new (Oct & Nov combined)

- Moving children's service week Sunday to avoid common long-weekend conflicts
- Advent Art Project Kicking off + Icon
- Choir in congregation to help learn "Rounds"
- Content of Children's Chapel
- Caleb: Removing Interim designation
- Shrove Tuesday: Pancakes

What's working

- Jeff K: music program
- Caleb!! (confession/stones)
- Many things to choose from To Do at St. Mark's
 - Parent's Date Night (in place of a dance)
 - Green Lions Film: Paris to Pittsburgh (good energy & interest)
 - Email Scam Information Campaign (Rector's Forum)

- E-mail: Recruiting / Pub Lunch / Announcements
- Deacon Preaching

What needs attention

- Sunday Suppers (General Support & Leadership / Fundraising during Advent - Broader Question of fundraising at St. Mark's of outside partners: Diaper Bank, Everyone Home, MEWG)

- Reorganize Arts Pillar
- Parish Life Reorg (future)
- HS Community Service (2020)
- Prep for Xmas (Children's Pageant)
- Intergenerational opportunities

OCT (not in Oct minutes):

- Concern about members who have left
- Co-chairs for Worship & Outreach
- Update Pledge Campaign Email Lists & Send Letters

- Volunteer Recruiting
- One More Newcomer Greeter at 11:15
- CE Budget ?s

- Pub Lunch Support
- Earmarking Estate planning donations

TREASURER'S REPORT

St. Mark's is on budget for the year. Another \$12K payment made to Line Of Credit - being paid off as pledges come in. Hoping for some substantial pledge income in the next couple of months and will continue to pay off LOC.

DRAFT 2020 Operating Budget inputting numbers as received in response to call.

\$129K estimate deficit in 2020 budget. \$44K deficit in 2019 budget was made up by surpluses from the previous year. NEXT month's DRAFT budget should better reflect projected end-of-year income and canvass status. **Vestry can review and consider places in budget for change at December meeting.**

Alix P noted that last year \$890K targeted, \$860K pledged and more was brought in. Pledges need to increase by +3% to hit \$890K target. \$890K will be \$129K short of DRAFT budget.

Considerations:

- Building maintenance is a major expense.
 - Review Maintenance Contract & Options
- 40% have already pledged without requesting additional 3% - pledge letter coming out now.
- New members don't pay as much.
- Relocation fees for new Ass't Rector may be less than budgeted (\$500 vs. \$5,000.)
- No plan to increase the canvass goal at this time.
- Jr. Warden informally compared rentals in area: Baxter Hall rates & Hill Conference Rooms @ \$189/hour are fair / Nave rental could be higher. Add'l comparables research could be informative.
- Christian Education Classes No Longer charge a \$25 fee.
 - Penniman Fund funds weekends for Sunday School & Adult Class Teachers
- \$10K reserve for Sabbatical (Michele M. skipping 2020 - hold as line item) and Building - \$5K, respectively
- Youth
 - Children's Choir Director
 - Architecture Ministry (Shaye W.)

Alix P moves to approve the Treasurer's Report, Christina H seconds. Report approved by unanimous vote.

DISCUSSION of "What" Sign-up Sheets

- Moving Children's Service to 4th Sunday starting in January to avoid frequent long-weekend conflicts.
- Advent Art Project Starting 12/1 - See Art Report on the Google Drive.
- CALEB has been excelling in Children's Chapel / Planning initiatives / Date Night organization, etc.
- Discussion on Announcements & Fundraising Opportunities for Outreach partner fundraising and sales events (e.g., MEWG / Honduras / Sunday Suppers / Diaper Bank)

- Ask everyone at this year's sales event to sign-in and let Vestry know by next year's October meeting if they plan to participate again.
- **Amber moved to allow Sunday Suppers to sell at the Alternative gift fair; Tracy seconds; Motion approved by unanimous vote.**
- **Amber moved to Refer to Outreach that they come up with an alternative signup for the alternative Gift Fair for 2020; Tracy seconds; Motion approved by unanimous vote.**
- **Amber moved that Sunday Suppers places the draft announcement as read (copied below) for the next 4 Sundays for online giving opportunity with a Thank You gift; Tracy seconds; Motion approved by unanimous vote.**
 - CREATIVE GIFT IDEAS THROUGH SUNDAY SUPPERS This year, you can give someone the gift of a donation to Sunday Suppers and receive a cute token from the organization to let your recipient know. Donations cover paper products for meals and insurance and upkeep on the van. Please check out <https://bit.ly/2CJHbes> to support this important work. Orders must be placed by Dec 16 to be received in time for Christmas.

- Arts Pillar: Would like to reorganize the Arts Council for regular meetings vs. everyone calls Tracy (music studio / dance studio / St. Mark's Players / Yoga Studio / Visual Arts group.) Tracy seeks to reorganize and potentially develop a charter.

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Exploring opportunity for decreasing expenses:

- Replace Maintenance Contract by finding and developing relationships with our own vendors and eliminating the middle man.
 - Junior Warden completing some repairs - seeks to train others.
- New sidewalk installation 2 days before Thanksgiving.

VESTRY LIAISONS

Outreach Budget Submitted: Reconfiguring to focus on purposes vs. payees.
No separate reports.

Gun Vigil Preparation is ongoing.

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Senior Warden traveling on trip to the Middle East.

We closed with a prayer by Tracy.
8:32 adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Kit Arrington
Vestry