



Minutes of the Vestry
June 27, 2023

The Vestry convened via Zoom conferencing platform for the June 27, 2023 meeting at 7:08 pm.
The following were in attendance:

Clergy - The Reverend Michele Morgan, Rector; Christopher Phillips, Associate Rector

Wardens - Jim Brooks, Senior Warden; David Wellman, Junior Warden

Vestry - Class of '26: Travis Beaty, Meg Platt, Todd Thorpe
Class of '24: Chris Berendes, Katherine Buchanan, Jeb Ory
Class of '25: Harrison "Hank" Donnelly, Jan Lipscomb, Nick Rogers

Officers - Randy Marks, Treasurer; Frank Nickerson, Assistant Treasurer, Special Gifts & Bequests; Rosemary Harold, Legal Counsel; Shay Waye, Clerk

Guest(s): Raiford Gaffney

Opening Prayer - Prayer led by the Rector (Christopher Phillips) at 7:08 pm

Approval of the Minutes - Minutes of the March 28 minutes were discussed for review and action

(Action) Motion (Jan Lipscomb) to accept March 28 minutes. Seconded (Chris Berendes). Motion was accepted by acclimation.

The May 30 minutes were also discussed for review and action.

(Action) Motion (Katherine Buchanan) to accept May 30 minutes. Seconded (Jeb Ory). Motion was accepted by acclimation.

Treasurer's Report - The Treasurer's report was distributed to the Vestry prior to the meeting. Randy Marks reported that \$115,000.00 in pledge payments was received, the result of Michele's email (a collaborative effort) to the parish to offset (primarily) repair and maintenance expenses. Hank Donnelly recommended that mid-year emails be a regular part of stewardship and Vestry was supported of this.

Michele will send communication to the parish regarding these additional funds, and Randy will follow with a similar note of thanks, on behalf of the Finance Committee.

Rector's Report - Michele's highlights included the following:
Introduced Rosemary Harold, who is now Vestry Counsel. Michele mentioned two items that require Council review, for Rosemary's review. Meg led the Vestry in thanking Rosemary for her willingness to serve.

Status of Afghan families, which Michele also acknowledged the many volunteers behind the scene, assisting with all areas of need. Michele also acknowledged an article written on the families we have helped and again thanked the many helping hands.

Everyone Home DC School Supplies Drive, is in need of assistance. Susan Sedgwick will lead this effort and encouraged everyone to participate as able.

Limited Purpose Credential Reform Sign on Letter, which Michele briefly explained as impacting migrants who are currently without IDs. A letter will be sent to Charles Allen to look into this and asked our new Counsel to be aware she will be asked to review the letter for forwarding to Mr. Allen.

Michele indicated she would put her report on the drive for Vestry's review.

Junior Warden's Report - The Junior Warden's report was distributed to the Vestry prior to the meeting, and highlighted the Montessori program has officially vacated, and is looking at service agreements. Jan Lipscomb asked about the janitorial contract. Dave responded that the contract with PMM will not be renewed due to service disappointments.

Other activities include re-keying the basement in July or August, and adding numerical keypads in the classrooms, which should be completed by July.

Senior Warden Report - The Senior Warden spoke about the Claggett Center, and its availability on June 22-23, 2024.

Jim discussed the date for next year's annual meeting, which is set for February 4. This would mean preparing a slate around October or November. Jim indicated that he would like to see a more meaningful annual report design that is more "telling of our story" to both newcomers and current parishioners.

New Business - The following new items were addressed.

- Membership Liturgy. Jeb Ory read an email that explained a Membership liturgy, a public commitment of membership at St. Marks. Members who leave would also be publicly recognized, a practice that had been done at St. Marks many years ago and is worth resuming since it encourages inclusion. The goal is to have membership liturgies twice a year. (ACTION)

Motion (Todd Thorpe) made and seconded (Meg Platt?) that Vestry authorizes the Clergy to schedule, on a regular basis, an opportunity for parishioners to commit to being St. Mark's members by taking vows (as part of a liturgy) that will be determined specifically by the membership committee in conjunction with the clergy.

- Goal-based Budgeting. Dave Wellman spoke of the need for clergy and leadership to tie in goals set by the parish, particularly how it addresses our causes. Additionally, there was discussion on vision statement vs. being goal-based and whether the two tie together.
- Barracks Row Parade. Jeb Ory encouraged St. Marks leadership's involvement in upcoming July 4 parade, which start at 9:45 am.
- Free Minds Book Club. Jan Lipscomb encouraged attendance of this event taking place on July 11 at 7 pm.

Adjournment - (ACTION)

Motion (Jim Brooks) to adjourn meeting. Seconded (Katherine Buchanan). Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 pm. Michele Morgan gave the parting prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shay Waye
Clerk

