

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
VESTRY MEETING
MINUTES
August 25, 2022

Present: Senior Warden-Marlo Pratt, Junior Warden-George LeBlanc, Treasurer-David Brierley, Clerk-Mattie Gustafson, Julie Zecher, Matt Spohn, Lee Ferreira, Rita Verespy and the Rev. Jennifer Pedrick.

Present via Zoom: Anne Wood

Absent: John Corbishley, Ray Edler, Richard Updegrave and Peter Collins

Guest: Ron Machtley

Jennifer called the meeting to order at 6:03 and shared a bible passage from Paul's letter to the Philippians. She also read a poem entitled *Patience* by Teilhard de Chardin.

Reconnecting with Each Other in the Presence of God – Jennifer

Jennifer asked "As leaders in this church, what "requests would we make known" to God – for the rest of this year? For next year?

Themes that emerged were developing and deepening spiritual nourishment, growth for the community, a vision for what comes next, continuing respect and love for each other, acceptance of change and a quiet peace, unity and understanding among us.

Historic Church Update – Ron M.

Air conditioning

Ron pointed out that the church is hot in the summer. It is too late to consider adding air conditioning to the current scope of work, but nothing that we have done or will do prevents us from adding air conditioning in the future. He is beginning to look at what the various options would cost, but he doesn't recommend doing anything now.

Delays

- The hard wood flooring is delayed (in Texas!), and not much can proceed until we put the flooring down. Hopefully it will arrive by mid-September.
- The sound system will be delayed even longer, perhaps even until 2023. We are going to have to use current equipment, etc. until it arrives. (Remember the theme of "patience" mentioned at the beginning of the meeting???)
- The choir chairs and cushions for the pews will also be delayed.
- If we can still move to the historic church some time in October, we will just have to adapt until these items come in.

An observation

Ron urged us to acknowledge and appreciate what a unique and special place our church is. This project has been a wonderful example of people working together and supporting each other and being flexible and, yes, patient!

Jennifer expressed a big, huge thank you to Ron for all his work and dedication.

George asked if Rob planned to re-pave the road around the church. Ron is planning on landscaping around the church – cleaning up the messy areas and repairing the walks going to both entrances. He hopes that the final budget for the church will come in low enough, that we will have funds to address the paving issue as well.

Marlo and Jennifer are working on plans for celebrating the re-opening of the historic church. They are thinking of an event that will thank all those who contributed and all those who worked together to bring this project to a conclusion.

Historic Church Campaign – Fundraising and Spending – David and Rita

David presented the Report of Historic Church Restoration Funding as of 31 July, 2022. Things are going well, but there is still a gap between what we need to totally fund the restoration and what we have on hand plus what is pledged. This gap is decreasing every month, and David is optimistic that by the end of the 3-year pledge period, the gap will be very small (or gone?)!

Treasurer's Report – Dave B.

David went over the Treasurer's Report.

Maintenance seems to be overspent by quite a bit, but that overspending will be reduced once he applies the surplus funds from 2021, ear-marked by the Vestry to the Rectory repairs. Overall, we are doing well.

Stewardship Report – Rita V.

The Annual Campaign will be kicking off on Sunday, September 18th. The Stewardship Committee has put together a detailed timeline for information dissemination and events, and all members of the Vestry should have a copy of that spreadsheet.

Building Use/ Fee Structure – Jennifer

It was necessary to update the fee structure for members and non-members who requested use of our facilities. Jennifer and the staff have updated and revised all fees. She shared that report with the Vestry. They are now going to be working on updating the entire Building Use Policy

Jennifer moved that we accept the new *Fees for Facility Use* updated 25 August 2022. Marlo seconded the motion. The motion passed.

There was a short discussion about Sea Rose. In the upcoming year, they will not be using the 2 downstairs classrooms that they had previously requested. Their lease is up in May 2023, and it is unclear what the future holds for them and for Gibbs House. The Vestry should be thinking about possibilities and potential opportunities.

Nominating Committee – Marlo

It's that time again! Marlo has put together a Nominating Committee that will seek 3 new members for the Vestry. Christine Winslow and Julie Zecher (an outgoing Vestry member) will co-chair the committee. The other outgoing Vestry members, Matt Spohn and Peter Collins, will also be members.

Invite Welcome Connect Program – Lee F.

IWC is proposing a special program in honor of All Saint's Day – a tour of our Graveyard. Alex Allardt has agreed to do this – she will present her “top ten graves!” This will take place November 6th. The tour (which will take place rain or shine) will conclude with a service of Evening Prayer and a Wine and Cheese Reception.

Property – Junior Warden Report – George L.

The air-conditioning unit in Gibbs House (Sea Rose) is faltering. For now, Jon has installed a smaller A/C unit and gotten the current unit up and running. Because (we hope) the summer and heat are almost over, that should be enough for now. George is getting quotes for various options and this issue probably should be addressed before next summer.

Consent Agenda

George L. made a motion that we accept the Consent Agenda, consisting of the June 16th Vestry Minutes, and the Treasurer's Report. Matt S. seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m. with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Mattie Gustafson, Clerk