

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
VESTRY MEETING
MINUTES
June 16, 2022

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

Present via Zoom: Anne Wood and Peter Collins

Guests: Patti Watson and Lauren Collard from Taste Design and Ron Machtley

Jennifer called the meeting to order at 6:07 and offered a prayer, originally written for musicians and artists, which she had adapted to include all artisans and church leadership.

Historic Church Update – Ron M.

Ron told us about the unexpected passing of Mr. Berman's wife, and asked for prayers.

Despite this tragic happening, the Berman's remain on the job, and all is going very well to date. They are working very hard to ensure that the walls and ceilings are totally prepped before being painted. The same company is going to do both plaster and paint. In other matters,

- The floor boards need to be acclimatized
- The current mortars between the stone are all a different shade and have been weathered as well. Finding and matching a color has been a challenge.
- Target date for completing the church is still within 6 months, although due to supply chain issues, some things might not be completely done.
- Stairs in the rear need to remain for safety. The handrails are being replaced.
- Removing the balcony in the back revealed an incredibly beautiful set of arches. We may need to rethink the placement of the rood screen, as we might not want to go from covering up the altar and the window behind it at the front of the church, to covering up the beauty of the arches and exit at the rear of the church. This decision needs to be made shortly.

Presentation by Taste Design – Patti and Lauren

Their presentation included the following, with color samples and pictures for many -

1. Boundaries of the carpet – which will not be laid underneath the pews.
 - ~ Sample for carpeting
2. Light fixture for the narthex – which will be similar in size to the existing light, with an adjustable chain
 - ~ Sample for metal finish

3. Choir chairs – 20 chairs with upholstered seats, arms, front facing, under the seat racks for hymnals and music, NO kneelers.
~ Sample for choir chair cushions and pew cushions.
4. Acolyte chairs, and clergy and bishop chairs.
~ Samples for all of these chairs.
5. Paint for the walls and ceiling
~ Sample colors for both – with some tweaking still to be made.
6. Beams to be refinished
~ Still working on lightening up the wood tones a bit, so the intricate carving can be seen.

One thing is becoming apparent – as design decisions are being put into place, the striking architecture of the church is becoming more visible.

Ron asked for prayers from all of us, to help us make good decisions that will be fitting and ultimately serve God.

Question: Will the amount of light be increased in the church?

Answer: The plan is to make the light inside much better – and it will be dimmable as well.

The audio-visual equipment will be updated so that our commitment to the hybrid church can continue. There is a plan to light up the stained-glass window behind the altar, so people driving by on East Main Rd. at night can see it.

Ron, Patti and Lauren left the meeting with thanks for all their hard work.

Jennifer and the Vestry also want to express their deep appreciation to Ron Machtley – who probably has the hardest job of all with regard to this project. He has spent countless hours, fielded many questions and requests from workers and continues to be guided by our goals of simple elegance, historic appreciation and transcendence.

Richard U. made a motion, seconded by Rita V. that we accept the color choices and finishes as presented by Taste Design and Ron M. The motion passed unanimously.

Stewardship Update – Rita V.

Thus far we have received pledges for the historic church from 40 members. We have also received many outright donations. Rita will supply us with a report for the next Vestry meeting that will include these donations as well in the total count of people participating in fundraising for the historic church.

Fundraising is going well, but we are still not there.

Stewardship and pledges for the ongoing operation of our church is also going well. We budgeted \$270,000 for pledges and thus far we have received pledges that total \$264, 244.

Rita would like to plan a celebration for the summer or early fall as a thank you for the commitment and generosity of our congregation. Lee F. offered to help with this event. Marlo is holding a Calendar Meeting on June 30. The goal of this meeting is to bring together ministry leadership to coordinate and help plan for the future. This “celebration” will be discussed at that meeting

Property – Junior Warden Report – George L.

Work on the Rectory has been completed, save for a few small things (a punch list) that need to be addressed. This project came in slightly over the \$60,000 budget, at \$62,329. The overage will be taken out of the Buildings operating budget.

George also mentioned that the reason the Building and Grounds budget seems 15% over is due to snow removal and also timing.

Tuck Fund Scholarship

- Jennifer moved that the Vestry go into Executive Session. John C. seconded the motion, which passed.
- Jennifer moved that we come out of Executive Session. Matt S. seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Senior Warden reflection – Marlo

Marlo asked us to pray for the ability to discern where St. Mary’s is going – to “find out what our journey is going to look like.” The Calendar meeting will be one way to look forward and try to discern where our ministry is taking us. But prayers and listening and thinking on the part of all Vestry members will also be key to our future decisions.

Consent Agenda

Mattie G. made a motion that we accept the Consent Agenda, consisting of the May 24th Vestry Minutes, and the Treasurer’s Report. John C. seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m. with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Mattie Gustafson, Clerk