

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
VESTRY MEETING MINUTES
January 25, 2018

Present: Senior Warden- Linda Drummond, Junior Warden-Dave Monroe, Treasurer- Chris Bartlett, Clerk- Mattie Gustafson, Jenny Williams, Michelle Freitas, Paul Westrom, Christian Myers, Dave Ferkinhoff, Chris Barker, Peter Collins, Murry Edwards and the Rev. Jennifer Pedrick, Rector.

Absent: Trish Culver and Steven Downing

Jennifer began the meeting at 6:04 with a prayer.

Consent Agenda

Dave F. made a motion, seconded by Paul W., that we accept the Consent Agenda, which included the Vestry Minutes for November and December 2017. The motion passed.

Annual Meeting

Annual Report

Murry continues to work on the printed report, which will be more concise this year. All reports need to be written and submitted, but each commission's entire submitted report may not appear in the printed version. What she is focusing on is: mission, ministry, mortar and money. Her goal is to keep the printed report no longer than 15-20 pages. Deadline for submission of reports is January 26th. The HCRT Report will be printed separately.

Mission/Vision presentation

Jennifer handed out a more concise outline of St. Mary's proposed Mission, Vision and Priorities for 2018.

Mission – St. Mary's Episcopal Church is a community of Christian worship, well-being and service.

Tag Line – Come grow with us.

Priorities –

1. Ministry serving **children, youth and families.**
2. Encouraging **current members to take ownership** of the church's mission and ministry.
3. **Growing our church** by welcoming newcomers, honoring them at programs and worship, and supporting membership, discipleship and connection.
4. Educating members and guests in **spiritual practices and Holy Scriptures.**

Much discussion of the above ensued. We need to “unpack” the phrase *well-being* – which is basically about being good stewards of our bodies, minds and spirits. It would be good to give some concrete examples of what we are talking about.

Another part of our Annual Meeting discussion will be on the question (asked prior to and during that meeting) – “**What do you want from your church?**” The Vestry’s plan is to look at any and all responses and discussion and match them to one of the 4 priorities.

Jennifer made a motion to accept the new Mission Statement and set of priorities. Peter C. seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Nominating Committee Report

The link went out this week to all parishioners listing who was running for what.

- Senior Warden – Murry Edwards
- Junior Warden – Paul Westrom
- Vestry member for a 2-year term – Trish Culver
- Vestry members for 3-year terms – Peter Collins, David Brierley and Julie Zecher

If there are no nominations from the floor, the Senior Warden can request that the Clerk cast one vote for the slate.

HCRT Presentation

The HCRT has divided work on the historic church into 3 phases –

1. *Phase One* – do what needs to be done to get us back into the church.
2. *Phase Two* – concentrate on the outside of the church – particularly the roof and gutters
3. *Phase Three* – concentrate on the inside of the church.

We are going to launch a Capital Campaign that will have three different avenues or methods for raising the money needed -

1. A direct appeal to parishioners and friends to donate money
2. Fund raising events – lawn parties, dances, etc.
3. Grant writing and submission. Included in this is an effort to have the historic church placed on state and national registers of historic places. Dave F. is heading a committee dealing with both grant writing and historic designation.

Paul W. is working hard on both a written and oral presentation for the Annual Meeting. We want parishioners to have all the information they need and we want to launch this Capital Campaign at the Annual Meeting. Pledge forms will be ready at the Annual

Meeting for anyone who wants one. A formal appeal letter will go out the week after the Meeting.

Paul W. moved that the Vestry authorize expenditures in the amount of no more than \$45,000 to allow the HCRT to:

- Demo the basement and remediate the mold
- Install a Santa Fe dehumidifier
- Pour a concrete floor under the sacristy
- Remove the windows and block them up.

Dave F. seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Rector's Time

Annual giving is at approximately \$218,000. Dave Brierley will resend the Pledge letter and cards to the 15 families who have not yet responded.

Welcome Weekend for newcomers is scheduled for February 24th. There are 28 new members in 12 families to be welcomed!

Bishop Knisely will be at all services the weekend of February 17 and 18 – and will confirm youth and adults on that Sunday. He has also asked to meet with the Vestry after the 10:00 a.m. service.

Sexton Search –

After a hard and sometimes frustrating search we have 3 good candidates. Interviewing is going on and Jennifer hopes to have a decision (and a Sexton) shortly.

Oliphant Land sale

We are going to get the soil tested formally, as part of our due diligence. We would like to have some kind of decision made by March 1st and the folks who are currently farming the land have to know if they can continue doing so – at least for this year.

Financial Report – Chris Bartlett

We ended this past year in a much better state than anticipated. Things are going well so far, and there is nothing unusual to report. Looking to the future, and a time when returns on investments might not be as high as they are currently, Chris Bartlett reported moving some assets into a “cash type” account, as insurance from investment fluctuations. Chris

Myers made a motion, seconded by Linda D. that we accept the Treasurer's Report for January 2018. Motion passed.

Property Report – Dave M.

A long discussion took place about the effort to place solar panels in the field next to the Community Garden. We need to have answers to the following questions:

1. Are we going to successfully sell the Oliphant Lane Property?
2. Can we legally borrow money from the Tuck Fund to fund purchase and installation of these solar panels?

Chris B. and Dave M. will work on getting answers to the above.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Important dates coming up

Annual Meeting – Sunday, February 4th, at 11:30 a.m.

Next Vestry Meeting – Thursday, February 22nd at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mattie Gustafson, Clerk