

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
VESTRY MEETING
MINUTES
September 22, 2022

Present: Senior Warden-Marlo Pratt, Junior Warden-George LeBlanc, Treasurer-David Brierley, John Corbishley, Richard Updegrave, Matt Spohn, Rita Verespy, Julie Zecher, and the Rev. Jennifer Pedrick.

Present via Zoom: Peter Collins

Absent: Ray Edler, Lee Ferreira, Clerk-Mattie Gustafson, Ann Wood

Jennifer called the meeting to order at 6:05.

Prior to starting with prayer, Jennifer asked for a moment of silence, reminding us that God is present. Her prayer gave thanks to God for entrusting us with the leadership of this holy place, that he blesses and guide us in the weeks, months, and years to come.

Reconnecting with Each Other in the Presence of God - Jennifer

Jennifer shared with us her observations and take aways from Spiritual Direction Training that she recently attended. She then led us in a Bible study discussion using the passage that kicked off our Stewardship campaign (Luke 9:10-17). The common themes that surfaced were hunger, nourishment, and abundance.

Goals and Strategy discussion for 2023 - Jennifer

We will follow these themes as we chart our course for 2023. Jennifer clarified that our discussion regarding goals and strategy for 2023 as noted in our agenda, was not to define them at this meeting but to point us toward priorities, which she will facilitate. As we come out of this unusual time, the Vestry should consider and prioritize the right things for our church now. Jennifer shared ideas that she has considered. Next month we will name the priorities for our goals and strategy.

Stewardship Report – Rita V.

Our campaign kickoff was Sunday, September 18th. Rita provided an update to the Vestry on donations and pledges to date for both our annual pledge campaign and Historic Church Renewal.

Update on Year-to-date Treasurer's Report – David B.

David noted that we have not needed to tap into the line of credit but may need to when the next bill comes in. The Vestry reviewed the financial reports. Questions were raised which David responded to. George asked for an accounting for two line items which David agreed to provide.

Historic Church Update – Jennifer

The wood flooring was delivered and is being laid. Things are moving quickly, on time, and on budget. The pews, upholstery, all the finishings to include crosses, candle sticks and vestments are being worked on as needed. David noted that the sound system and camera are being installed. The lectern, which is a historical piece, is out for refinishing. The plan is to be back in the church and hold a traditional Episcopal worship on November 13th.

Historic Church Celebration – Marlo

A breakfast celebration is being planned for November 13th after services. A committee has been formed led by Kathleen Geasey, members include Bill and Judy Hall, Mary Kay Lundberg, and Katie Machtley. The committee has requested that it be catered so that all may participate. The committee's first meeting will be held on October 26th. The cost for the event was discussed.

Richard Updegrave made a motion to approve the spending of up to \$5,000 from this year's surplus as designated by the Treasurer. David Brierly seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Property – Junior Warden Report – George L.

- Rectory - There are only a handful of punch list items left to finish, they should be completed by the end of September.
- Gibbs House A/C - Quotes have been received. Also under consideration are less expensive alternatives. The goal is to complete the project by spring 2023.
- Bartlett Tree has been asked to provide a quote to spray our beech trees with a newly approved and effective treatment for beech leaf disease. The disease can kill a tree within six years and affects all beech trees.
- The need for lighting rods on the Church is being researched. After further investigation of need and cost, a recommendation to the Executive Committee and Vestry will be made.

Consent Agenda

Jennifer asked if we were all in favor of accepting the Consent Agenda consisting of the August Vestry Minutes. All approved.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Rita A. Verespy