

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
VESTRY MEETING MINUTES  
September 28, 2017

**Present:** Senior Warden- Linda Drummond, Junior Warden – Dave Monroe, Treasurer- Chris Bartlett, Clerk– Mattie Gustafson, Chris Barker, Paul Westrom, Christian Myers, Trish Culver, Michelle Freitas, Dave Ferkinhoff and the Rev. Jennifer Pedrick, Rector.

Absent: Jenny Williams, Steve Downing, Chris Barker and Peter Collins

Jennifer began the meeting at 6:09 with a prayer, read from *Bless the Space Between Us*, and a bible study of Acts, Chapter 17.

**Consent Agenda**

Linda D. made a motion, seconded by Chris Bartlett, that we accept the Consent Agenda, which included the Minutes and the Financial Report for August. The motion passed.

It was pointed out that we had neglected to put two things on the Sept. agenda that had been agreed upon in August: getting a corporate credit card and signing up for the Amazon Smile program. Michelle F. is heading up the corporate credit card project; Chris Bartlett said he would take care of Amazon Smile before the October meeting.

**Rector's Time**

Jennifer's written report is attached as an addendum. A few points –

We seem to be off to a good start this fall – in administration, worship and programming.

We are inviting Anne Hackett of Island Childcare to make a formal presentation to the Vestry next month, concerning her requests re parking and access. We will ask the Sarah Gibbs' Trustees to attend as well.

- Jennifer will call Anne H.
- Paul W. will contact the Trustees. He will also call the Rector of St. Paul's Methodist Church, for information about their parking spaces that are rented.
- Dave M. will call our insurance carrier to confirm the limits / extent of our liabilities.
- We will get Eric Chappelle to write the lease.

Playgrounds are required to have a special mulch as their surface material. After a contribution from a parishioner, St. Mary's will still owe \$1550 for playground upgrades.

Our Parish House is getting lots of use, and some users are not cleaning up after themselves as well as they should – and we are getting mice! (Seems mice love chocolate

and peanut butter??) Jennifer and Kim have undertaken to meet with everyone who uses the building to outline their use agreement and the responsibilities this use incurs.

The Music program is in some flux, and decisions will need to be made shortly. Trish C. and Michelle F. said they would like to work with Jennifer on the music program.

Shelley Dungan and the Sacred Center are up and running.

Christian Myers will send a copy of the Vestry Covenant he has to all Vestry members. We should also look at an agreement on communication. Linda suggested that everyone look at their *Vestry Handbook* (given out when they became a Vestry member). There are guidelines in that handbook as well.

Jennifer will be away (in Malaysia and Thailand) starting October 18<sup>th</sup> for 2 weeks.

### **Miscellaneous Issues -** **Capital Campaign**

A discussion was held about the great need for a capital campaign. Dave F. made a motion, seconded by Paul W. that the Vestry establish a committee to begin work on a capital campaign. Linda D. said that Linda Grentz has resources at the Diocese that can help with this. Someone also needs to talk to Chris Barker, as he had begun a similar campaign a while back. Jennifer, Dave F., and Mattie will get together to begin discussing who would be good for this committee and to begin recruitment.

### **Personnel Committee**

We are thinking of expanding the scope of the Personnel Committee's duties to include keeping in touch with our staff on a regular basis, asking for feedback and discussing any issues that may have come up. We also need to craft some personnel policies. We also need to put together a job description for a Sexton. The Senior Warden or the Rector will be in touch with Chris Barker, chair of this committee, to ask him to begin this work.

### **By-Laws**

Chris Bartlett, Paul W., and Jennifer will work together with Dave F. to craft a formal presentation for the Vestry. By-laws will be on the agenda for October.

### **Financial Meeting**

There will be a meeting with Linda Grentz on Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. All Vestry are urged to attend.

### **Property – Dave Monroe**

#### **Solar Array**

Dave M. made the following motion: "That the Solar Committee of Paul W., Dave F., and Ed Gosling, in collaboration with the Executive Committee of the Vestry be authorized to

enter into a financially neutral or favorable agreement to install a solar array on the SW corner of the churchyard, if it is deemed financially sound.” Mattie seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **Oliphant Lane Property**

We seem to have two options: Sell the land to RI Nursery and the development rights to the state of RI for an unknown return, or pursue a deal with a solar investment group to lease the land in 2-year increments for a long-term rental return. Dave M. made a motion, seconded by Chris Bartlett, that the Vestry authorize Dave M. to pursue these 2 options simultaneously. The motion passed.

Dave M. will send a copy of Mary Mitchell’s will out to all Vestry members.

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

**The day and time of our next Vestry meeting is  
Thursday October 26, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Mattie E. Gustafson, Clerk