

St. Helena's Episcopal Church

Vestry Minutes

May 16, 2023

Vestry Present: Jennifer Shelby, Beth Adam, Sarah Davis, Tommy Mathews, Steve Drukker, Amy Purcell, Perri Rosheger, Cindy Glick, Gary Frashier, Adam Groenhuyzen, Todd Calder, Ted Geer

Clergy: The Rev. John Badders, The Rev. Jamie George

Staff/Treasurer: Ann Shorter, Bob Myer

Call to Order: 6 PM

Devotional: Fr. John started off the meeting with an opening prayer, followed by a Vestry devotion given by Mo. Jamie. In her devotion, Mo. Jamie used Scripture, Tradition, and Reason, engaging the Vestry with questions about truth, wisdom, and knowledge, as well as how does the Vestry, as leaders of our congregation, remain united for the overall welfare of St. Helena's.

Sub-Committee Meetings: Sub-committee meetings occurred, with report-outs to follow below.

Rector's Time:

- Fr. John shared some of his observations over his first 2 weeks as Interim-Rector:
 - Current growth in our Church is at a plateau, but we should “staff for growth”
 - St. Helena's is probably the 3rd largest Church in the Diocese
 - Fr. John re-iterated that he was very pleased to be here

Senior Warden's Time:

- Tommy reminded the Vestry of the Vestry host's role in securing the monies after services, and to please write legibly.
- Tommy suggested that the Vestry host also be involved with handing out information cards to our new visitors.
- Tommy updated the Vestry regarding the gold that was collected for the Bishop's pectoral cross and ring.

- Tommy shared the confidential list of the Search Committee members, who will be commissioned on 6/4. The Vestry approved the slate of names.
- Tommy provided an update concerning the Endowment Board. He stated what was the approved distribution, and also noted the names of 2 new members of the Board, Denise Powers & Stuart Smith, effective immediately. After a motion from Gary, and a second by Steve, the Vestry approved of the 2 new members.

Sub-Committee Reports:

Administration:

- Adam led a review of the April financials, noting that the School budget outlook was improved as compared to last month. He also highlighted that the plate giving was down for the last month; something to keep our eyes on as a potential revenue issue. After some discussion, Todd made a motion to adopt the April financials, and after a second by Gary, the Vestry approved.
- Adam shared 2 sets of minutes, which included the last Vestry meeting, as well as the Special Vestry meeting held on 4/23. Both sets of minutes were adopted by the Vestry, after a motion from Adam, and a second from Sarah.

Buildings and Grounds:

- Todd noted that the start date for the Parish Hall remodel will begin on 5/31. He acknowledged that the LNTP (limited notice to proceed) was granted on behalf of the Vestry by the Senior Warden.
- Bob then led a discussion regarding the Master Plan Phase Now funding plan. Fundraising, using working capital, use of Vestry designated funds, amongst other funding ideas were discussed, including a specific donation earmarked for the bridge connector from the Historic Sanctuary to Wendler Hall. Potential risks of using working capital, as well as other alternatives for funding were discussed, questioned, and reviewed. After input from all the Vestry members, the consensus was to proceed with the Phase Now Master plan as well as the funding plan needed.
- The Columbarium Fund, as a component of the Vestry Designated Funds, was discussed, and the Vestry approved, by consensus, re-allocating funds from the Columbarium Fund to the Gift component, leaving \$3K in the Columbarium Fund.

Mission:

- Sarah discussed potential Rally Day activities, including Creation Care
- Jennifer noted that Sunday, 5/21, is Cereal Sunday, an outreach activity for children in need over the summer.
- Sarah noted that in June a back-to-school clothing drive will be held. She also highlighted the current Women's Bible study, in which approximately 80 women are attending!
- Steve shared information about a non-profit in San Antonio which could perform an "audit" of our grounds, with suggestions for improvements in making it more inviting.

St . Helena's School:

- Tommy informed the Vestry that Wednesday, 5/24, is graduation day, as well as noting the upcoming open enrollment period.

Around the Table:

- Steve suggested an idea about having a "Vestry minute" during the Sunday services' announcement time frame.
- Before adjourning, Tommy led a prayer, and Vestry members laid hands on Ann, as this was her last Vestry meeting!

Adjourn: With no further discussion, the Vestry adjourned at 7:50PM.