

St. Helena's Episcopal Church

Vestry Minutes

June 20, 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

Staff/Treasurer: Ann Shorter, Pam Boutte

Call to Order: 6PM

Devotional: Fr. John opened the meeting with a prayer, followed by sharing a story at a funeral he attended to, noting the Gospel story of Jesus with his disciples in the boat on the Sea of Galilee. We must focus on faith, not fear, and that Jesus is always “in the boat” with us.

Sub-Committee Meetings: Sub-committee meetings occurred, with report-outs to follow below. Tommy suggested that as we meet, we should keep in mind the following aspects in our discussions: fiduciary; strategic; generative.

Rector's Time:

- Fr. John shared that the average Sunday attendance is 311.
- Fr. John reminded the Vestry that we are seeing new people attending services every Sunday.

Senior Warden's Time:

- Tommy updated the Vestry on his meeting with Bishop Reed, discussing the Parish Profile and next steps with the search for our new Rector.
- Tommy noted that we have a meeting next Tuesday, 6/27, with the Diocesan Canon for Administration & Ministry Support, Caroline Mowen, in regards to the search process.
- Tommy has asked Steve to assist with our consistent messaging, especially in regards to a “Vestry update” every Sunday.
- Tommy reminded the Vestry of the upcoming Mission trip to Wounded Knee, and to keep the youth and adults in our prayers.

Sub-Committee Reports:

Administration:

- Adam led a review of the financials as of 5/31, and after some discussion, Ted made a motion to adopt the May financials, and after a second by Beth, the Vestry approved.
- Adam shared the minutes from the last Vestry meeting, which were adopted by the Vestry, after a motion from Todd, and a second from Steve.

Buildings and Grounds:

- Todd noted that the Parish Hall remodel was proceeding well, and at the current time, is about 10% under budget.
- Todd also noted that the Bridge Connector process continues to move forward, and he provided an estimate of about 2.2 to 2.3 million dollars would be the budget for both the Parish remodel and the Bridge connector combined.
- The Vestry reviewed and discussed the budget for the Master Plan Phase now. Adam made a motion for the following clarification regarding the Parish Hall remodel as part of the Master Plan Phase now: the funds to pay for the Parish Hall remodel will be from the following 3 sources: the Vestry designated fund(now a line item in our budget called the Parish Hall Renovations fund), operating reserve, and fundraising. After a second from Gary, the Vestry approved of this clarification.
- As part of this clarification, Steve made a motion that the Vestry commit to backfill whatever operating reserve was used for the Parish Hall remodel from the Capital Campaign and any budget surplus. After a second from Cindy, the Vestry approved.

Mission:

- Sarah updated the Vestry concerning the recently completed Vacation Bible School, and the clothing drive held in conjunction with Hill Country Daily Bread that provided clothing for 21 kids returning to school this upcoming school year.
- Sarah discussed the Fall plan for “Dinner for 8”, which would occur once monthly for 4 months. Vestry members were encouraged to partake.

- Cindy noted that “Fishing for Mission” will be taking place on September 22 in Rockport, along with St. Peter’s Church; Michael Glick is working on organizing this.
- As follow up, Sarah reminded the Vestry that there will be a Creation Care table at Rally Day.
- It was noted that during this year’s Labor Day parade, that St. Helena’s should be involved with some form of Outreach; Tommy stated that in the past we barbecued on our front lawn for the attendees of the parade.

St . Helena’s School:

- Tommy updated the Vestry on the School Board governance, the School budget, and the search process for the new school administrator. Tommy stated that the School Board will be going through a process of strategic planning, and noted that enrollment was down to 44 students. By a consensus vote, the Vestry approved a vote of confidence for support of the School.
- The School Board approved a \$20K expenditure to place artificial turf on the grounds. The Vestry approved of this change to the grounds, after a motion by Perri, and a second by Steve.
- Tommy shared the following 3 appointees to the School Board: Noelle Butler, Angela Thompson, and Paula Wells. After a motion by Cindy, and a second by Beth, the Vestry approved the 3 appointees.

Around the Table:

- Beth stated that she will announce to the congregation on Sundays in July the planned Happening scheduled for August.
- Jennifer raised an issue regarding better lighting in the parking lot outside the Parish Hall entrance.
- Before adjourning, Cindy led a closing prayer.

Adjourn: With no further discussion, the Vestry adjourned at 7:40PM.