

St. Helena's Episcopal Church and School

Vestry Meeting Minutes

October 17, 2023

Vestry Present: Jennifer Shelby, Sarah Davis, Tommy Mathews, Amy Purcell, Gary Frashier, Adam Groenhuyzen, Todd Calder, Ted Geer

Vestry Absent: Perri Rosheger, Steve Drukker, Beth Adam, Cindy Glick

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

Staff/Treasurer: Bob Myer

Call to Order: 6:03PM

Devotional: After an opening prayer by Fr. John, Adam shared his devotional entitled "If not now, when?" It was based on James 4:17, which according to the NRSV: Anyone, then, who knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, commits sin. Adam then shared a story concerning St. Paul's journey from Rome to Jerusalem, and how through certain courageous and sacrificial lives, St. Paul was able to accomplish that journey.

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

Clergy Time:

- Fr. John announced to the Vestry that his last day will be 10/29, and that this is his last Vestry meeting.
- Fr. John also shared his thoughts on being an Interim-Rector, and stated that St. Helena's is in a very healthy place.
- Mo. Jamie shared that she donated \$1K from her discretionary fund to the Diocese to go towards the Helen McAllister Fund.
- Mo. Jamie also shared a continuing education guideline, along with a grant application for her upcoming educational plans, which includes a pilgrimage to The Holy Land in June, 2024.
- To cover the difference between her requested grant and the total cost of the planned continuing education, Tommy made a motion that the Vestry cover that difference(\$3,236.00). After a second from Todd, the Vestry approved.

Senior Warden's Time:

- Tommy noted that he and Pam are actively working on a budget for the prospective Rectors and their families for travel purposes. After some discussion, Tommy noted that the Vestry should authorize \$14K for this purpose. After a motion by Gary, and a second by Jennifer, that authorization was approved.
- Tommy shared that he had just received the 2024 Insurance and Compensation packet from the Diocese. He and Pam will also be working through the details of the compensation package, and at the November Vestry meeting, the Vestry will review and then approve the compensation package for the new Rector.
- Tommy updated the Vestry that this coming Sunday is Pledge Sunday.

Sub-Committee Reports:

Administration:

- Adam led a discussion about the September financials, pointing out one particular concern, which is the lower plate revenues. Bob and Adam addressed the questions from the Vestry, and after a motion from Ted, and a second from Todd, the September financials were adopted.
- The minutes were also reviewed from the September Vestry meeting, and after a motion from Tommy, and a second by Gary, the minutes were approved.
- Adam shared that the recent Audit Report was good, with no specific issues noted.
- Lastly, Adam led a discussion and review of the Vehicle Policy and Procedures, which was initially reviewed at last month's meeting, with changes made between then and now. After a motion from Todd, and a second from Sarah, the policy was approved.
- Todd mentioned that although not needing to be a part of the Vehicle Policy and Procedures, a maintenance schedule for Church vehicles should be looked into.

Buildings and Grounds:

- Todd informed the Vestry that the sound system and TV monitors in the Parish Hall need some adjustments, and that WIFI will be installed.
- Todd noted that a group is forming to look into improvements to our organ.
- Todd also noted that we are looking into a replacement gas-burner stove.

Mission:

- Sarah noted that the Dinners for 8 are proceeding well, and that the Sunday Vestry minute has been well received.
- Sarah announced that the Decades Dinner is on 11/9, with proceeds going to Transformation House.
- Sarah noted that 46 women attended the Women's Retreat at Mustang Island, and she also stated that the Welcome-Invite-Connect process needs to be re-instituted.

St . Helena's School:

- Tommy shared that enrollment has risen from 50 to 56 students, with a goal set for 65 students.
- Tommy also noted that the new turf on our school grounds has begun, and that there is a planned fundraiser for the School set to start in November.

Around the Table:

- Todd mentioned that he will be ending his time on the Transformation House Board, for anyone who may be interested in replacing him.
- Sarah made a request that we look into replacements for the drinking water fountains.
- Todd also shared an Altar Guild request concerning the flowers on the altar in the Historic Sanctuary. After some discussion, the Vestry agreed that the Vestry hosts on Sundays will move the flowers from the Historic Sanctuary to Wendler Hall, and then back to the Historic Sanctuary for the 11AM service.
- Tommy stated that the November Vestry meeting will take place on 11/14.

Adjourn: With no further discussion, the Vestry adjourned at 7:17PM.