

St. Helena's Episcopal Church and School

Vestry Meeting Minutes

December 19, 2023

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

Vestry Absent: Sarah Davis, Amy Purcell, Beth Adam

Clergy: The Rev. Jamie George

Staff/Treasurer: Pam Boutte, Bob Myer

Call to Order: 6:05PM

Devotional: Steve opened our meeting with a beautiful prayer, followed by Tommy, who spoke about Advent, and the light of the world, leading to a group devotional. Vestry members shared their thoughts about Advent, Christmas, and families, noting that we need to keep Jesus as the center of our actions and thoughts.

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

Clergy Time:

- Mo. Jamie began by recognizing the Vestry and the church office staff, and how extraordinarily supported she feels with such good people.
- Mo. Jamie shared the topic for Sunday school beginning in January: Crossing Thresholds.
- Mo. Jamie updated the Vestry as to the clergy who will be helping her during Sunday services.

Senior Warden's Time:

- Tommy asked that Pam provide an update regarding Stewardship: as of the current date, we now have 172 pledges, amounting to \$1,028,842. Both Pam and Bob acknowledged the Vestry and their calls to those parishioners who had not yet pledged, as of the last Vestry meeting, which helped in this increase.

- Tommy then asked Bob and Pam to present the proposed budget for 2024. A summary handout, which went to the Vestry electronically preceding this meeting, was reviewed as well. Key inputs were noted, and changes were highlighted. Questions from the Vestry were addressed by Pam, Bob, and Tommy. The Church School budget was also presented and reviewed, including a handout, which Pam provided, comparing prior school year budgets, going back to 2017-2018. After discussion of both of these budgets, the Vestry approved the School budget, after a motion by Perri, with a second from Cindy. Likewise, the proposed 2024 Church budget was approved by the Vestry, after a motion from Todd, and a second from Steve.

Sub-Committee Reports:

Administration:

- Adam led a discussion regarding the November financials, with Pam and Bob addressing the questions from the Vestry. After a motion from Ted, and a second from Steve, the November financials were adopted.
- Adam then asked for any questions or clarifications concerning the minutes from our last meeting, and after a motion from Cindy, and a second from Jennifer, the minutes were approved.

Buildings and Grounds:

- Todd reviewed with the Vestry the latest issues concerning obtaining a new stove for the Parish Hall kitchen. Next steps include looking into a gas line, which will need City approval.
- Todd also updated the Vestry on our Wi-Fi and internet issues.
- Todd noted that Ben Adam has been working more on the plans for the connector, and we are steadily moving forward with those plans.

Mission:

- Cindy provided to the Vestry an update concerning the Dinners for 8, as well as noting future involvement with Creation Care initiatives.
- Cindy asked Pam to provide an update regarding the Walk in Bethlehem, and Pam noted that we had 1,394 visitors over the 2 days.

St . Helena's School:

- Tommy noted that potential candidates for School Director has been narrowed down, with interviews to begin in January.

Executive Session:

Tommy informed the Vestry that an Executive Session is needed, and after Mo. Jamie, Pam, and Bob were excused, an Executive Session was held.

Post Executive Session:

As a follow-up from last month's Executive Session, all present discussed and approved Christmas bonuses for Mo. Jamie and the church office staff.

Adjourn: With no further discussion, the Vestry adjourned at 7:55PM.