

Saint Mark's Vestry Meeting
July 6, 2021
7:00 PM
Saint Mark's Canterbury Center and Zoom

Minutes taken by Vestry member Judith Grant (Recording Secretary, Barbara Hyre, was unavailable)

Present:

Judith Grant, Bill Mayr, Anice Ellis, Marilyn Karl, Jay Iams, Cheryl Boop, Julia Johnson-Davis, The Rev. C. Christopher Thompson (Transitional Priest-in-Charge), Phil Glandon (Treasurer), Leslie Winters (Junior Warden), Mark Drew (Senior Warden)

Not Present: Irina Reed, Sam Slee, Roman Skoracki, Rachel Dwyer-Markwardt, Henry Markwardt,

The Rector Elect, Rev. Vicki Züst joined via Zoom prior to the meeting to say a brief hello.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Mark Drew. Father Chris Thompson led Vestry in an opening prayer.

MINUTES of the Jun. 1, 2021 meeting were distributed. Upon motion, seconded and passed, the minutes were approved as written.

Interim Rector Report (Fr. Chris Thompson)

The Rev. Steven Smith (recently retired from St. Patrick Episcopal Church, Dublin) facilitated "mutual ministry" reviews of St. Mark's staff, including the Rector. These annual reviews are intended to help the staff focus on how they are working to support the ministry of the congregation as a whole. Each staff member was asked how they were enhancing the parish desires listed in the parish profile. It was an opportunity to provide the staff feedback as well as to hear feedback from them.

Fr. Chris emphasized that the pandemic has taught us that as a church we can't go back to the way we were pre-pandemic. We need to be more proactive as the country gets more secular. As a church, we need to do a better job of reaching out to younger people in the local community.

Senior Warden's Report: Discussion in addition to report attached to agenda

The Rev. Bruce Smith will be our transitional "Supply Priest" for the month of August. During this month the Wardens will be in charge of parish business with Bruce on call for pastoral needs.

A fully ratified contract is in place for Vicki. Phil noted that she will need to break down how she wants to divide up housing and stipend. Annual mutual ministry review is part of the contract.

Junior Wardens Report: Attached to the agenda, no discussion

Treasurer's Report:

Phil Glandon is happy with our financials through the end of June relative to the budget. We appear to be a bit ahead of budget, but this will likely be eaten up in the 4th quarter. Phil is currently working on the church audit with our new auditors. Phil noted that working with Vicki on her contract was a joy – they were exactly on the same page with all revisions that they wanted to make, and the diocese was amenable to these changes.

Discussion Items:

- In cooperation with Outreach, Julia Johnson-Davis will coordinate the Labor Day Bake Sale
- Chris requested and was granted funds to stay in a hotel for 2 nights at the end of his time with us as his apartment lease expires prior to his last Sunday
- Discussion about the 3M Migration Ministry support of a migrant family. The family has the legal status of "Asylum on Probation". A member of St. Brendan's is the official sponsor and is working closely with 3M. The family has been connected with a pro-bono attorney and also been put in touch with NNEMAP food pantry. Two of the family members are US citizens and they are now working at McDonald's. Their sponsor has rented them an apartment on 5th Ave. 3M is engaged in doing a collection of materials that are of immediate need: furniture, bedding, etc. There will likely be a call to the parish for items such as gift cards, rolls of quarters, bedding, etc. Outreach will be purchasing beds. Vestry is asking about 6-month plan in addition to these immediate needs. Bill Mayr (representing Communications) suggested a feature article to be published in the October issue of the Epistle.
- St. Mark's will host the Diocesan Council Meeting on Aug. 28. Patrick Hreachmack (member, St. Mark's) is on the council. The meeting is open to the public. Mark Drew is encouraging the youth of Saint Mark's to attend to learn more about Diocesan activities and governance. Boxed lunches will be purchased by the Diocesan Council from Freedom a la Cart.
- The search for a new organist is underway, with a projected start date of Jan. 1, 2022. A search committee has been formed with Cheryl Boop representing the Vestry on the committee. Bob Wisniewski, the current organist, has agreed to continue through October and will also perform at the October and November Choral Evensongs as well as December's Advent Lessons and Carols.
- Stewardship – There was an extended discussion on Stewardship, parish budgetary needs and directed donations. Over the last few years there have been more directed donations. Chris suggested that aside from special fundraisers (e.g. Canterbury Choir soup sale, Labor Day bake sale, cookie walk, etc.) charitable donations ought to be

directed into the church's general budget, within which all foreseeable expenses should be included (technology upgrades, music program needs, Outreach ministry, flower expenses). The vestry would then be in charge of dividing up "God's money" to the various constituents that have individual budgets and requests. In order to do this, the Vestry would have to change the way Saint Mark's budgets, including all needs in both the budget and stewardship campaign. No decisions were made on this topic.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm with a prayer led by Fr. Chris.