

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting, November 7, 2023, 7:30 PM

Present: Michael Bowman, Martha Belury, Steve Brindza, Cheryl Boop, Kevin Fix, Betsy Gillespie, Phil Glandon, Brenda Hammersley, Jodi Hess, Julia Johnson Davis, Bruce Johnson, Barb Keyes, Anna Markwardt, Ted Meyers, Jody Porreca, Vicki Zust

Absent: Andi Waller, Roman Skoracki

Welcome and Opening Prayer: Vicki Zust

Call to Order: Cheryl Boop – Senior Warden Meeting called to order at 7:31 PM

Approval of Previous Minutes: (October) The minutes were approved as written.

Reports:

1. Rector's Report (Vicki)
 - Congrats to all that were involved in evensong, and the Fall fest. It was wonderful. Thanks to all.
 - Columbus Monthly this month has a special section on Upper Arlington. There is an ad from St. Mark's and Vicki was interviewed, but she doesn't know if she will be quoted.
 - Outreach Committee is working on reorganization. The hope is to have more ways for people to be involved in outreach work. There will be more information to come.
 - We have decided that we will not be providing lunches to CATCH Court. It will be revisited in the future. It is too difficult to find people to go downtown in the middle of the day on a weekday. There may be another way to help catch court in the future.
 - How is it November?!? The upcoming months are very busy. Choral Eucharist for Christ the King, Lessons and Carols, Advent starts December 3.
 - Bishop Elect has received the needed consents. She will be joining the Diocesan staff as of December 1, 2023
 - There are new people every Sunday. Whatever we are doing is working. Some from the Newman Center, some from First Congregational. Some people are just discovering the church is here.
2. Senior Warden Report (Cheryl)
 - Convention is this weekend. A group from St. Mark's is preparing to go.
 - Evensong was just wonderful.
 - We are a safe space for people right now. We are a place where people can come heal who are hurting from losing their churches or experiencing other difficulties. They may not stay long term, but we are a safe space in the meantime.
3. Junior Warden Report (Kevin)

- a. Electricity aggregation: The city approved electric aggregation. It doesn't make sense to opt out. We will save \$300 to \$400 a month.
 - b. Working on landscape and tree service to take care of tree issue.
 - c. Any thoughts on parish assessment
 - d. Cleanliness of the building needs attention.
- 4. Treasurer's Report – October Financials (Phil)
 - a. All good news, ahead on revenue. It looks like it will be a good year. The anticipated annual large gifts came in.
 - b. We budgeted a \$58,000 deficit this year, and as of October, we are \$52,000 in the black.

Discussion Items:

- 1. Stewardship (Julia and Betsy)
 - a. Expect to have \$460,000 in pledges. A lot of new pledges.
 - b. Staff member gifts. There will be an opportunity for people to donate to staff member Christmas gifts.
- 2. Emergency Procedures (Ted)
 - a. Committee of public safety met two weeks ago. CRAZE Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events. They do classes for small groups. It is statistic based. More emphasis on fighting rather than hiding. Discussed doing fire drills. People need to be aware of exits. There needs to be a planned meeting place. We need to rely more on ushers as well as vestry person of the week. The ushers and as many people as possible should go through that training.
 - b. CPR training should be made available.
 - c. Kevin has names of people who can come and help plan fire drills and evacuation plans. They will continue working.
- 3. Draft Building Use Agreement (Vicki)
 - a. The current agreement is dated, including listing names of people as contacts who are no longer a part of St. Mark's. There is a draft for revisions. Vicki will send the draft home with the Vestry to review and make suggestions. Questions can be emailed to Vicki. It will have updated contact information.
- 4. Lessons and Carols Reception (Steve, Julia, Andi)
 - a. They will use the signup genius from last year, and a sign up in the parish hall.
 - b. Vicki will order plates and napkins. We will use real cups for the wassail.
 - c. There needs to be a coordination between putting those who signed up on paper into the signup genius.
 - d. Youth and Canterbury Choir will help with clean up.
- 5. First Look at Draft Budget (Vicki, Cheryl, Kevin, Phil)
 - a. Phil presented the draft:
 - b. Correction: Under facilities trash budget should be 1300. The numbers are close. This includes a 3% raise for staff.
 - c. Phil listed a few more corrections.
 - d. There may be a need to budget additional funds for the lead singers who may be called upon to sing for the bishop's ordination.
 - e. Next month the draft will be updated and we will go into depth and detail and discuss.

Open Discussion: Parking Lot Issues

- a. Children's Christmas Pageant: Sign ups and promotions need to be set up.
- b. Christmas Eve: One morning service with no music to cover 4th Sunday of Advent. Then the Christmas Services in the evening.
- c. New Year's Eve will have normal services.

Blessing and Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:24

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanna Porreca, clerk