



SAINT MARK'S
EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

Saint Mark's Cathedral
February Vestry Meeting Minutes
Saturday, February 16, 2019
Cathedral House Room 210 – 10:30 a.m.

Vestry Members Present

Neshia Alaovae
Kristen Austin
Jim Buskirk
Bob Chapman
Amanda Davis
Andrew Himes
Micah Kurtz, Diocesan Member
Julia Logan
Michael Perera
Marjorie Ringness
Michael Seewer
Robert Stevens
The Very Rev. Steve Thomason, Dean

Vestry Members Not Present

Rosemarie LeMoine
Mary Maxon, Diocesan Member
The Rev. Canon Marda Steedman Sanborn, Bishop's Representative

Officers Present

Phil Lloyd, Treasurer

Officers Not Present

John Hoerster, Chancellor
Re Knack, Vice-Chancellor
Clerk vacant

Call to Order, Prayer, Review of Agenda

The Vestry joined the workshop led by The Rev. Nancy Frausto, then retired mid-morning to CH 210 for their retreat. Steve opened the meeting at 10:25 a.m. with prayer. All present introduced themselves. Steve reviewed the agenda for the meeting. He mentioned chancellor, clerk, warden, and treasurer appointments, and paid tribute to the work of Phil Lloyd.

Dean Thomason introduced a motion to approve Phil Lloyd as treasurer. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Conflicts of Interest

Steve apprised everyone that The Rev. Cristi Chapman's daughter, Madeline, has been working in the child care center. Cristi does not directly supervise her daughter. The vestry is aware of

Madeline's involvement and potential conflict of interest disclosed by Cristi, acknowledges the value for her to continue as a child care employee, and is supportive of the arrangement moving forward.

A motion to approve Madeline Chapman continuing her employment in the Child Care Center was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Michael Seewer is temporarily employed part-time to assist preparing the presider books and service leaflets. Steve relayed the Chancellor's opinion that as long as the vestry acknowledges to the arrangement, Michael can continue in the temporary role, which is expected to end in a few weeks. Julia clarified the procedural concern that this will continue until April, at which point the new Cathedral Sacristan and Head Verger will be employed to assume those responsibilities. Steve noted that the vestry is aware of the temporary conflict, and that it will be resolved by April 1.

A motion was made to acknowledge the potential conflict of interest that arises with vestry member Michael Seewer serving as a temporary employee in the liturgy department, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Steve distributed the conflict of interest affirmation of compliance forms for all to sign.

Strategic Plan 2017-2019

Steve noted that this is the final year of the current strategic plan. It has served us well, but after six years of the same mission statement, it is worth a new look. Steve called on the vestry to engage a strategic planning committee, and asked that a few vestry members serve on the committee. Bob, Robert, and Neshia volunteered to serve, and Lynne Markova will be involved like she was in the prior plans. Steve solicited questions on what the new plan might look like.

Saint Mark's 2030 Plan

Steve reviewed the formation of the 2030 strategic plan, and how it differs from the 2005 strategic plan. Specifically, he highlighted the 2030 plan's focus on the cathedral building, versus the 2005 plan's focus on the St. Nicholas Building. There is no clear path currently for the parish's potential increasing use of the St. Nicholas Building. A discussion ensued about the best use of the facilities. The Dean and Chancellor will consult with the LLC partner seeking their input as well. It was agreed that the vestry should tour the St. Nicholas Building.

Statement of Commitment and Action

Steve asked if the statement is still a good document to guide us, and if there are new ways of tweaking the document or doing it anew. Marjorie suggested more visibility for climate justice. Bob suggested, and Julia agreed, that we should look at the document again; Steve will task it to the strategic planning committee. Bob had a question about how much work any potential updates to the statement would entail, and Steve explained the time commitment involved in the creation of the current document.

Strategic Missional Goals/Mutual Ministry Agreement

Steve reviewed the Mutual Ministry Goals for 2018. He expressed his sense that, on return from his sabbatical in 2018, the cathedral parish is entering a new era, with potential new directions in ministry. The vestry discussed the high-level missional goals it should engage, and what the clergy and ministries should be charged to express. Julia mentioned Bishop Rickel's WalkAgain goals: formation, education, connecting with younger people, connecting to the wider community, and leadership.

Possible goals that were brainstormed:

- Be a center for excellence. Be a healthy parish, and a healthy cathedral for the diocese.
- Look at what other cathedrals are doing.
- Work with churches outside the diocese.
- Cathedral Day
- Creation care (Steve's position on the leadership council for Earth Day 2020 could be helpful)
- Young people across the diocese visit other churches in the diocese.
- Be more political, but not partisan.
- Continue conversations about race.
- Pray more.
- Live into the space in Leffler House that the Cathedral Shop will vacate (as an extension of part of the strategic goals for mutual ministry).
- Live into a full understanding of stewardship, instead of centering it around the fall season.

Bob cautioned the vestry to describe the goals in terms of prayer. Others agreed the vestry should be mindful of the goals it chooses *not* to focus on. Steve asked Phil about financial goals. Phil answered that financial perspectives are the backdrop to everything, and that they speak for themselves; "it's not easy to carve them into a one-year goal." It was pointed out that different goals have a lot of overlap with the cathedral being a center for excellence, which is a strategic goal in itself.

Focusing of goals centered on:

- Conversations about race
- Stewardship
- Center of excellence
- Creation care
- Strategic planning
- Engaging/learning from other (faith) communities

The Executive Committee will work with these to refine a draft document for vestry consideration in March.

Consent Agenda

A motion was introduced to approve the minutes from the January vestry meeting and the annual parish meeting. Julia pointed out that the words "constant contact" (*sic*) in the annual meeting minutes need to be capitalized; Michael said he would amend the minutes to that effect. **The motion to approve the January Vestry Meeting minutes was seconded and passed unanimously. The motion to approve the Annual Parish Meeting minutes, with one correction, was seconded and passed unanimously.**

Misc. Business

Steve reminded all vestry members to complete the Safeguarding God's Children and Safeguarding God's People training courses by the March 26 meeting. He also reminded everyone about the new key policy and the campus-wide rekeying to occur in June.

Shrove Tuesday will be celebrated with a Mardi Gras party on March 5. It is tradition that vestry members are present, and contribute appropriate food for the event.

Appointment of Senior Warden and Election of Junior Wardens

Steve left the room while the remaining vestry members deliberated about wardens for the new year. With the vestry's unanimous support, Steve appointed Julia as Senior Warden. Amanda and Jim were unanimously elected Junior Wardens by the vestry.

Resolution for Authorized Check Signers

The wardens are to be authorized check signers.

A motion was made and seconded to add the new wardens as authorized check signers and to execute required bank documents to add these persons. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution to Establish Vestry Membership

The proposed resolution was for the vestry to consist of sixteen members (officers not included).

A motion to adopt Resolution #19-GO-01 was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Ministry and Committee Liaison Assignments

Diocesan Members: Mary, Micah

Worship and Music: Jim, Amanda, Michael S.

Faith Formation

Children and Families: Neshia

Youth: Kristen

Adult: Bob, Neshia

Justice (JMCT): Bob, Micah

Creation Care: Andrew, Marjorie

Hospitality: Rosemarie

Communications: Andrew, Michael P., Michael S.

Stewardship: Robert

Finance: Amanda, Robert, Phil

Facilities: Jim

Cathedral Foundation: Steve (ex officio)

Neshia requested a spreadsheet of the meeting times of all the groups. Steve said such a list can be created when the new groups arrange their schedules. Steve encouraged vestry members to identify strategic planning goals for their ministries.

Checkout and Closing Prayer

The meeting was adjourned at 1:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Perera
Vestry Member

Erik Donner
Executive Assistant

Upcoming Events of Note

March 5 – Shrove Tuesday

March 6 – Ash Wednesday

March 29-30 – Mirabai Starr

April 21 – Easter Day

May 18 – Cathedral Day