



May Vestry Meeting

Tuesday, May 25, 2021, 6pm
Zoom Video Conference

Vestry Members Present

Kristen Austin
Clara Berg, Junior Warden
Carmen Brady
Jim Buskirk
The Rev. Canon Arienne Davison, Bishop's Representative
Karla Koon, Diocesan Member
Scott Kovacs
Micah Kurtz, Diocesan Member
Peter McClung, Senior Warden
Emily Meeks
Kathy Minsch
Katie Prettyman, Diocesan Member
Marjorie Ringness
Chris Rigos
Robert Stevens
Walter Stuteville, Junior Warden
The Very Rev. Steve Thomason, Dean

Officers Present

Barbara Erickson, Clerk
Re Knack, Chancellor
Phil Lloyd, Treasurer

Staff Members Present

Erik Donner, Executive Assistant to the Dean
Jim Pannell, Director of Operations

Guests

John Hoerster, Chancellor Emeritus

Call to Order, Prayer, Review of Agenda

Steve opened the meeting with the acknowledgment that Saint Mark's gathers on Duwamish tribal land and a prayer at 6:00PM.

Consent Agenda

The Vestry accepted and approved the minutes from the April 27, 2021 meeting as published.

OLD BUSINESS

St. Nicholas Redevelopment Update

John Hoerster reported that the 120-day Due Diligence period with the development partner will end June 4. The report will provide extensive details addressing the costs of the seismic upgrade, the roof and hazardous materials. Anticipated timeline: June 4 receipt of the Due Diligence report; Exploratory Committee meeting on June 14; update the Vestry on June 22; Exploratory Committee meeting on July

14 to determine a recommendation; and a Vestry meeting on July 27 or an early August special meeting to determine if we proceed with the process.

Statement of Commitment and Action Update

The Executive Committee accepted the changes proposed at the April Vestry meeting and recommended the Statement of Lament and Commitment to Action for adoption. A friendly amendment was made and approved to drop the word “Ally” from the spelled out “LBGTQIA+” found in the preamble. **The Vestry unanimously approved the adoption of the Statement of Lament and Commitment to Action as amended.**

Formation Consultation

Consultant Jamie Martin-Currie will be providing a report to the dean and wardens the second or third week of June based on over 200 responses to the Parish survey and the Listening Sessions. Discussion then took place about the scope of her responsibility and how the Listening Sessions seemed to focus specifically on the youth. Expressions of interest in what her report will reveal intergenerationally.

Vestry Liaison/Committee/Ministry Roles

Enfolding slowly, the work of the formation consultant will help form the roles and ongoing conversations with ministries will help with the transition. Ministries, along with their vestry liaisons, are asked to look at how their decisions are driven/informed by the Mutual Ministry Goals. Liaisons are also asked to submit quarterly minutes or notes to the Vestry Dropbox. Creation Care and Justice Ministries Coordinating Team will provide a model for how this will work.

Relationship between Mutual Ministry Goals and the Strategic Plan was discussed. All that we do is grounded in the roots of our Strategic Plan, approaches may not be as relevant post-pandemic but the desire and need for healthy congregation depends more on our Mutual Ministry Goals.

NEW BUSINESS

July 27 Vestry Meeting

The question of how the vestry wants to meet moving forward with options of Zoom, a hybrid of in-person and Zoom (works well for the diocesan meetings with the Diocese of Olympia) or in-person meetings? Discussion took place of the merits of each, especially with the inclusion of a meal together. The dean and the wardens will meet and make an informed decision.

Resolution for 4% Annual Draw

Phil presented the annual resolution to move 4% of the Endowment Funds (in the Diocesan Investment Fund), \$75,000, into the general operating fund unless donor restrictions apply.

The Vestry approved the recommendation from the Executive Committee to move 4% of the Endowment Funds into the Operating Fund.

Discernment Updates

- The ordination of Malcolm McLaurin will take place on June 15 at Saint Mark’s. The ordination will be livestreamed.
- Robert Stevens will be leaving for seminary – Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley, CA – at the end August with school beginning September 1.
- Phillip Lienau will also be attending Church Divinity School of the Pacific. Both Phillip and Robert are postulants of the Diocese of Olympia.
- Lisa Graumlich is completing Phase II of her discernment to the diaconate.
- Lynne Markova is also finishing her Phase 2 work and will be seeking her nomination as a postulant.
- Kelly Moody has been assigned to an internship at Saint Michael & All Angels in Issaquah and is doing well.

Carbon Reduction Work at St. Nicholas

The Cathedral and St. Nicholas have budgeted \$25,000 each toward the Carbon Reduction Initiative. Currently Saint Mark’s has spent \$3,800, with \$5,600 left to do for a total of \$10,000. With the Puget Sound Energy instant rebate of \$4,300, the net cost will be \$7,800 and an additional \$9,200 in deferred maintenance.

Current expenditures with the St. Nicholas Building are \$45,000, with \$37,000 still needed and required to receive the rebate. A total of \$83,000 will be spent – PSE will rebate \$35,000 with a net cost of \$49,000. Over the next five years, \$40,000 in additional incentives will be anticipated. The Executive Committee recommends the approval of the additional expenditures. It was noted that savings are being realized now, and Solarc is adding value.

The Vestry approved the additional expenditures as presented by the Executive Committee.

LEADERSHIP REPORTS

Senior Warden

- Spent a number of hours with the Office Space Committee
- Attended the Absalom Jones Center for Racial Healing session and debrief
- Facilitated ongoing Coffee Hour
- Participated with Education for Ministry and the Saint Mark's Singers choir
- Met with the Garden Ministry
- Participated in the liturgical training
- Was adopted by the Mideast Focus film series group and working on next year's film series
- Finance Committee, St. Nicholas Committee, Eucharistic Visitors, Creation Care, Facilities Committee, and interviewed by the College for Congregational Development from St. Andrew's on how we gather people together – how do people enter Saint Mark's
- Began preparations for Saint Mark's convener role for Diocesan Convention
- As a 5th Avenue Theatre board member, able to help Rebekah and youth access the Rising Star Project: RadioActive Musicals

Dean

- Reopening going well – 100 at 11:00AM service maxed out. June 20 will add a 9:00AM service also limited to 100. Mask wearing will continue until guidelines from local officials change. Malcolm will preside at both services on June 20, and between services, the dedication of the electric vehicle charging station in honor of Jim Mulligan will take place.
- Working with a consultant on the installation of audio/video equipment in Bloedel Hall.
- Taking eucharist to senior living centers – Skyline, Mirabella, and Horizon House – with Bishop Rickel.
- Cathedral Cookbook – favorite pandemic food; send recipes to cookbook@saintmarks.org
- Vacation July 7 – 13 to Hawaii.
- Taking masks off outside is up to the wearer, but whenever inside the cathedral, a mask is required.
- ACLU West Wall Project begins tonight. Several dozen names of people killed by police in Washington State. Press release tomorrow morning. George Floyd's name will be shown tonight from 9 to 11pm.
- Vestry members encouraged to consider signing up for the Prayer Chain email ministry (send request to prayers@saintmarks.org). Encouraged to pray for those who need our prayers or have died. Good news comes over also, birth of babies, connection to the community; email sent out multiple times per week.

Ministry/Committee Reports

- Creation Care & Carbon Reduction
Marjorie: encouraged everyone to attend the carbon tracking training on June 3 7:00 offered by Sustain Island Home – sustainislandhome.org. Encouraged what type of follow-up we can do.
Emily: Lummi Totem Pole Journey that began in Bellingham and ends in Washington, DC. Noteworthy experiences of riding on the truck with the totem pole and made a meaningful connection made with a Lummi woman. On Sunday a group went to a farm where they were welcomed and did a little hands on farming.
- Diocesan Representatives
Micah Kurtz, St. Columba, Kent: this is their fourth week of in-person services; this past Sunday there were no restrictions, very powerful on Pentecost to hear everyone praying together in the same room – new normal.

Reflection: Mutual Ministry Check-in

Peter explained how we will now expand this segment to include connections talked about that relate to our Mutual Ministry Goals:

- Boiler change, economics in terms of climate reduction
- Values Saint Mark's is bringing to the redevelopment project – not just focused on economics
- Consultant focusing on youth, conversation focused on all and the future
- Restorative justice and totem pole journey
- Message on walls of cathedral and the future of Restorative Justice
- Discernment process of our friends – leaders for the future
- Mideast Focus Group – Black Actors Guild portrayed the parts and equals the present
- Prayer Chain
- Carbontracker training
- ACLU list of names

Check out & Closing Prayer

Checkouts were given and Scott gave the closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 8:08PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara J. Erickson
Clerk

Erik Donner
Executive Assistant

Dates/Events of note