

St. Mark's EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Capitol Hill

3rd & A Sts SE,
Washington, DC



Minutes of the Vestry Meeting
Monday, February 25, 2019
6:30 p.m.

Present:

Clergy: The Rev. Michele Morgan, Rector

Wardens: Nora Howell, Senior Warden; Kenn Allen, Junior Warden

Vestry Members: Jim Brooks, Tracy Councill, Stephanie Deutsch, Christina Herman, Beth Mahood, Amber Macdonald, Alix Pereira,

Officers: Martha Huizenga, Treasurer; Mary Anderson Cooper, Register

Absent: The Rev. Scott Lipscomb, Assistant Rector; Vestry Members Thia Hamilton, Brandon Dunn Knight; Rosemary Harold, Counsel

Visitors: Raiford Gaffney and Michelle Strange

The Opening Prayer was offered by the Rector, who also presided at the meeting.

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY MEETING

Beth Mahood moved, Kenn Allen seconding and the Vestry concurring unanimously that the minutes of the January meeting be **APPROVED.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

There was a surplus of over \$90,000 at the end of 2018, largely because of pledges for 2019 paid in advance. Approximately \$44,000 was transferred into 2019 (just as was done in the previous year when there was a large surplus due to excessive pre-payment of the next year's pledges) and there was a discussion about the use of the remaining surplus funds. These funds will not be committed at this time since we want to minimize the sum we may need to borrow to cover the anticipated cash flow shortfall associated with the restoration work beginning in the Spring. The next meeting of the Finance Committee will be on March 12, where these expenses will be further considered.

The Rector thanked retiring Treasurer Martha Huizenga for her outstanding service in putting the parish's finances on a professional footing.

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Kenn Allen reported that the new sound system in the nave will be installed March 11.

Permits for the work on the tower have been applied for and work is to start March 3. Construction of the necessary scaffolding will begin March 18.

Kenn submitted a request that he be allowed to request \$28,000 for exterior restoration work from the Building Preservation Fund of the endowment. Jim Brooks moved, seconded by Stephanie Deutsch and the Vestry concurring unanimously that the request be **APPROVED.**

RECTOR'S REPORT

The Rector reported that she is continuing to meet with a number of groups and classes and working on a variety of issues concerning the building, especially as related to maintaining the facilities. She is continuing supervisor training at Virginia Theological Seminary. She noted that the Third Agers are looking for additional leaders. A new Manciple, Jim Pittman, has been recruited. The Rev. Patricia Catalano is now Adjunct Clergy and will be offering a Lenten class on Desert Mothers and Fathers. An interim Youth Director, Caleb Nelson Amaker has been engaged. The program commitment to ending gun violence continues to be a priority. A seminarian, Joe Hubbard, has been engaged for a period of 18-24 months. Pastoral care and counseling continues to be a major commitment. Michele reported to the Vestry that a barring order had been issued to a member as a result of a troubling situation. This situation was discussed in much detail, although to protect the privacy of the individual involved, the minutes intentionally do not reflect the specifics.

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Nora Howell reported that work is ongoing on developing a privacy policy. Limitations need to be placed on how personal information such as email addresses can be used. Rosemary Harold is working on developing a policy. She requested that Vestry members who could help notify Rosemary. Tracy Council volunteered during the meeting and Alix Pereira volunteered after the meeting.

She reported that the new complaint procedure will be presented to the parish through an eGospel being drafted by Amber Macdonald. It will also be mentioned in Michele's sermon on March 3 as the Epiphany Season ends.

The Canvass has reached \$831,185 (93% of the goal for 2019) but there are still a number of people who pledged in 2018 but have not yet responded for 2019. The Extended vision campaign has received pledges of \$1.42 million in pledges so far toward a goal of \$1.8 million. Because the Extended Vision funds are pledged but not all paid yet, it is likely that a short-term loan will be needed to cover the cost of the repairs now being made to the building exterior.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Beth Mahood reported that Jim Pittman has agreed to serve as Junior Warden. There are four candidates for Vestry: Shay Waye, Kit Arrington, Kristi James, and Andrew Stafford. Candidates for Diocesan Delegate are Caitlin Fraser and Grace Aspinall. Michelle Strange has agreed to serve as Register and John Edwards will move from Assistant Treasurer to Treasurer (both positions subject to election by the Vestry but not the Annual Parish Meeting).

The Rector will chair the meeting. The three teams managing logistics will meet by conference call a week before the Annual Parish Meeting and candidate literature will be available to the parish ahead of the meeting.

LIAISON REPORTS:

Membership Committee: New members are needed for the Committee.

Green Lions: Worship materials are available for use in the Spring.

Outreach: Jim Brooks reported that Outreach would like to participate in Lenten programming.

Arts: Tracy Council reported that Cindy Dopp has proposed making a visual representation of things people are giving up for Lent.

The Vestry Retreat: The retreat will tentatively be April 12-13, beginning with Friday night dinner and running from 10 until 3 on Saturday. It will be chaired by the Rector.

The Parish Retreat: The Annual Parish Retreat at Claggett will be June 8 and 9.

NEXT VESTRY MEETING: Monday, March 18, 6:30 p.m.

The closing prayer was offered by the Rector.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anderson Cooper, Register