

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting Minutes
December 2, 2020

Present: Fr. RJ, Derek Gordon, Sr. Warden; Grace Giammarco, Jr. Warden; Beth Crowl, Linda Deuble, Bruce Hixon, Bob Kennedy, Marcia Kiesling, Beck Rand, Caroline Willoughby, John Wise
Guests: Charlie Kiesling, Treasurer; Dave Thorley

The Vestry met virtually via Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by Fr. RJ, who opened the meeting with a prayer.

Marcia **motioned** to accept the minutes of the November 4, 2020 meeting. Grace seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Finance Committee

- **Bradley Mull's Hope Outreach Project**
 - Donations for the project were over \$1,800.
- **Stewardship Campaign**
 - The Finance Committee will be contacting those who pledged last year but have not yet turned in their pledges. We are expecting 14 more pledges.
- **2021 Budget**
 - The 2021 Budget will be completed in January, after all pledges have been turned in and we know the 2020 expense and carryover amounts.
- **Draw from Endowment**
 - A monthly draw from the Trust, amount yet to be determined, will be needed in 2021. Drawing on a monthly basis will allow us to skip months in which a draw is not needed.

Senior Warden's Report

- **Vestry Nominations**
 - The Nominating Committee has a slate of 3 candidates for the 3 vacancies on next year's Vestry. Vestry members with expiring terms are Grace, Bob, and Beck.

Rector's Report

- **Housing Allowance Resolution**
 - Fr. RJ presented a Housing Allowance Resolution¹ which is needed for proper allocation of the rector's housing allowance for income tax purposes. Fr. RJ **motioned** to adopt the submitted Housing Allowance Resolution. John seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.
- **Christmas Service**
 - The Christmas service this year will be virtual and pre-recorded. The children's pageant will also be done virtually and added to the recording which will be uploaded on Christmas Eve.
- **Covid Restrictions – Diocese, Stark County, and State of Ohio**
 - When Stark County's Covid status is Purple, our Sunday service will be Morning Prayer. The only people in the building will be Fr. RJ and Katie, who will manage streaming the service. We follow guidance from the Diocese and the State of Ohio.
 - Guest Dave Thorley let the Vestry know that tomorrow Stark County's Covid status will be elevated to Purple, and recommendations will follow from the County.

Annual Meeting

- The Annual Meeting will be held on the 3rd Sunday in January, which is January 17, 2021.
- The Meeting will most likely be held virtually by Zoom.
- With 3 candidates for 3 open Vestry positions, we can do a simple vote instead of a tally vote to approve the slate of candidates.
- Immediately following the Annual Meeting, a special Vestry-only meeting will be needed to elect a new Senior Warden and a new Junior Warden.

Legacy Giving Group

- A Legacy Giving Group has been formed to develop an End-of Life Ministry.
 - Increase awareness of mentioning St. Mark's in wills as a form of planned giving.
 - Provide assistance for funeral planning before it is needed to make things easier for the surviving family members.
 - Provide templates for planned giving and funeral planning.
- The committee will present a menu of offerings and promotional plans to the Vestry in the next few months.

Convention Delegates

- Linda **motioned** to certify that in October we approved Charlie and MaryAnn Kiesling to be our Delegates to the 2020 Annual Convention of the Diocese of Ohio. Beck seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Other Business

- **Parish Directory**
 - Grace suggested that we make sure we have parishioners' updated contact information so we can produce a physical directory in addition to the one online. We also need to update our photo directory, which will benefit Fr. RJ as well as new members. After the Covid restrictions improve, Katie will update our photos to produce a new photo directory.
- **Evening Prayer**
 - Charlie invited more people to attend the 4:00 Wednesday Evening Prayer service on Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm with a **motion** by Linda that was seconded by Bob and approved unanimously.

The next meeting is Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 5:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Karen Violand
Clerk

1-Attached: Housing Allowance Resolution

Housing Allowance Resolution

The following resolution was duly adopted by the vestry of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Canton, Ohio at a regularly scheduled meeting held on December 2, 2020, a quorum being present:

Whereas, Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code permits a minister of the gospel to exclude from gross income a church-designated allowance paid to him as part of his compensation to the extent used by him for actual expenses in owning or renting a home; and

Whereas, Ronald A. Johnson is compensated by St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Canton, Ohio exclusively for services as a minister of the gospel; and

Whereas, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Canton, Ohio does not provide Ronald A. Johnson with a rectory, therefore, it is hereby

Resolved, that the salary paid to Ronald A. Johnson for calendar year 2021 shall be \$70,359 of which \$30,000 is hereby designated to be a housing allowance; and it is further

Resolved that the designation of \$30,000 as a housing allowance shall apply to calendar year 2021 and all future years unless otherwise provided.