

St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
Vestry Meeting Minutes  
April 4, 2018

**Present:** Rev. Beth Frank; Derek Gordon, Sr. Warden; Grace Giammarco, Bruce Hixon, Bob Kennedy, Charlie Kiesling, Beck Rand, Sara Strattan, Christy Thorley. **Excused:** Rhonda Warren, Beth Crowl  
**Guest:** Doug Skladan from St. Andrew's Elyria

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. Opening prayers were led by Sara Strattan. A motion to accept the minutes of the March 7, 2018 meeting was made by Sara Strattan and seconded by Beck Rand. The motion was approved.

In the interest of efficiency during the next several months of extended discussions, the Wardens and Rev. Beth have changed the Vestry agenda to only list items that have current business to discuss.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Transition Process**

#### **Discussion with Doug Skladan – St. Anthony's Elyria**

St. Anthony's parish is much like St. Mark's, and has been through similar challenges. Doug graciously met with the Vestry to share the experiences of his parish. Some of his key comments were:

- Don't get hung up on where you've been, but instead focus on where you want to go.
- Make sure there is alignment between what the parish wants and what the called rector wants.
- The church should ask what it can do for the congregation, not vice versa.
- The diocese's structured process is very helpful.
- Conduct parish meetings to communicate vestry activities and hear what is important to the parish.
- Condense a parish list of wants to just a few key areas.
- The more the search committee is left alone, the better.

After meeting with Doug, the Vestry reviewed the status of the plan for discerning a full-time vs. part-time priest, and discussed the timing and methods of sharing information with the parish. The final plan is outlined below under Transition Timeline Review.

### **Church Visit Update**

The last church visits have been scheduled and will include parishes with a part-time priest.

### **Transition Timeline Review**

- Parish visits will be completed by April 22, 2018. Notices will be put in the Lion's Pause about the parish visits and a Vestry member will address the congregation during services to reiterate the purpose of the visits. Derek will compile the visit findings and send a summary to the Vestry by April 29, 2018.
- Transition Education Seminars will be held between April 29 and May 12, 2018 to share the Vestry parish visitation experiences as well as answer questions and solicit general feedback.
- At the June Vestry meeting, the Vestry will discern parish feedback and make the final full-time vs. part-time priest decision. A parish meeting will be held to communicate the decision and kick off Search Committee nominations and the selection process.

### **Event Notifications**

- Rogation Sunday/Animal Blessing is May 6<sup>th</sup> and will be held in the undercroft.
- The Brewmeisters group submitted an Event Proposal for "Jambalaya Jam" on September 8, 2018. Vestry approval is needed because alcohol will be served. The event will be catered and the admission

charge will cover the costs, therefore no money is needed from the parish. This event is in place of the "Oktoberfest" and "Blues, Brews, and BBQ" events. Charlie motioned to approve the Brewmeisters' "Jambalaya Jam" and Grace seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

## **Interim Rector's Report**

### **Bishop's Visit**

Bishop Williams will visit on April 8<sup>th</sup> and will meet with the Vestry after the service. There will be one service at 9:00 am. Two adults will be baptized and confirmed.

### **Soundproofing Proposal**

The Soundproofing proposal is being tabled until we can get a map of the building.

## **Security Committee Update**

We have recommendations from the Canton Police Department and are examining security roles and responsibilities within the church, such as if ushers are prepared to handle security issues. We will also check and see what other parishes are doing.

## **Financial Approvals**

### **Check Signing Authority Approval**

Charlie presented the following motion from the Finance Committee:

Effective April 5, 2018, the following people are designated by the Vestry to sign checks and finance disbursement recaps:

- General Checking Account: Senior Warden Derek Gordon, Treasurer Charlie Kiesling, Office Manager Katie Kuceyeski, Grace Giammarco, Gary Mull, and Sara Strattan.
- Rector's Discretionary Account: Interim Rector Beth Frank, Office Manager Katie Kuceyeski, and Senior Warden Derek Gordon.
- Altar Guild Account: Rhonda Warren and Office Manager Katie Kuceyeski.

Bruce Hixon seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

### **Transfers**

\$500 per year is supposed to go to the Rector's Discretionary Fund, but had inadvertently been omitted from the budget. Charlie made a motion to move \$500 from Account 8045: Brewmeisters Oktoberfest Designated Account to Account 2018: Rector's Discretionary Account. Derek seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

## **Other Items**

Sara will be attending a Grant Writing seminar at St. Paul's in Akron on Saturday, April 21, 2018. This pertains to obtaining grants from the Diocese.

Dave and Christy Thorley, Charlie Kiesling, and Rev. Beth will attend a Stewardship Workshop in Brecksville on Saturday, May 5, 2018.

Sara moved to adjourn the meeting, Derek seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

The next meeting is Wednesday, May 2, 2018 at 6:00 pm. Christy Thorley will provide the devotions.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Violand, Clerk