

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting Minutes
January 3, 2024

Present: Fr. RJ, Leslie Redmon, Sr. Warden; John Willoughby, Jr. Warden; Kent Clark, Carol Hayn, Joe Hoot, Sara Strattan, Rick Werren

Not Present: Gene Little, Mandy Pelger

Guests: Charlie Kiesling, Treasurer

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm with devotion and prayer provided by Kent.

John **motioned** to accept the minutes of the December 6, 2023, meeting. Leslie seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Wardens' Reports

- **Senior Warden**
 - The updated Vestry Guidebooks are being finalized.
 - The Social Committee is looking for ideas for social events during the year.
 - Livvy Mull is going to paint designs on the back of the new benches in the outdoor chapel in the Spring.
 - Leslie reminded the Vestry of serving lunch at Hope Outreach on January 21st.
- **Junior Warden**
 - No report.

Rector's Report

- Fr. RJ will be away from February 4-13 on a family trip.
- Parish Statistics:
 - Our average Sunday attendance at the end of 2023 was 74, compared to 63 in 2022.
 - In 2023 we had 3 burials and 2 baptisms.
- Ash Wednesday is February 14. Fr. RJ will talk to Carol about Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner and Lent dinners.

Old Business

- **Meeting Our Objectives**
 - Attendance increased in 2023 as noted in the Rector's Report.
 - The number of pledges and the amounts have increased.
 - Geoff Gordon is continuing to maintain a good relationship with Weaver.
- **Buildings and Grounds Update**
 - Several Christmas wreaths are losing needles and need replaced. A count of wreaths to replace will be made when they are taken down on January 13th.
 - Sara **motioned** on behalf of the Finance Committee to allocate up to \$1,000 to replace greens that need to be replaced. Joe seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

- **Annual Meeting and Vestry Organizational Meeting**
 - The Annual Meeting will follow the 9:00am service on Sunday, January 28th.
 - Nominees for the Vestry Class of 2024 are: Beth Bletzacker, Ken Jaeb, and Kathy Wise.
 - The Vestry Organizational Meeting will be held immediately after the Annual Meeting to appoint the Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, and Clerk. The February meeting will also be discussed.

New Business

- **2024 Budget**
 - Sara **motioned** to adopt the 2024 Operating Budget as presented, which includes:
 - Donations and Weaver CDC rental income totaling \$241,251.
 - A request to the St. Mark's Trustees to approve and arrange for monthly distributions in 2024 of \$6,200, totaling \$74,400 for the calendar year.
 - Total budgeted operating expenses of \$315,125.
 - John seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.
 - While discussing sources of income, there was a general consensus that we should not charge for Fellowship activities, and instead use a donation basket. Fundraising events that require tickets with a known price to attend will not have donation baskets.
- **Facility Rental**
 - Our facility rental policy and agreement will be updated, to be discussed and reviewed at the March Vestry meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:26pm with a **motion** by Carol, seconded by Rick, and approved unanimously.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 22, 2024, at 6:00pm. Fr. RJ will provide the Reflection and Prayer for the meeting.

ADDENDUM: At the Vestry Organizational Meeting, the February Vestry meeting was scheduled for Thursday, February 22, 2024 at 6:00pm. There will be a short business meeting followed by an Orientation session for new and existing Vestry members. The newly revised St. Mark's Vestry Handbooks will be distributed.

Respectfully submitted,



Karen Violand
Clerk