

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting Minutes
October 10, 2018

Present: Rev. Beth Frank, Derek Gordon, Sr. Warden; Rhonda Warren, Jr. Warden; Beth Crowl, Grace Giammarco, Bruce Hixon, Bob Kennedy, Charlie Kiesling, Beck Rand, Sara Strattan, Christy Thorley

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm. Opening devotions were led by Bruce Hixon.

Approval of the August meeting minutes was delayed to allow for addition of financial detail. The final August minutes were presented, and a motion was made by Sara Strattan to accept the August 1, 2018 minutes. Charlie seconded the motion and the motion passed. Rhonda motioned to accept the September 5, 2018 minutes. Beth Crowl seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Diocesan Delegate Search

Grace reported that Anne Coen and Tony Keenan agreed to be delegates to the Diocesan Convention in addition to Bob Kennedy. Bob had volunteered to be a Delegate at the September Vestry meeting.

- Grace motioned: Accept and approve Tony Keenan and Anne Coen to join Bob Kennedy as our representatives at the Diocesan Convention. Bruce seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Budget 2019

Charlie presented the proposed Budget for 2019 and noted that the \$41,000 deficit will need to be funded by the Trust in 2019. We will be able to meet our expenses for the remainder of 2018 because a \$30,000 check has already been received from the Trust.

- Derek motioned: Approve the 2019 Budget. Bruce seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Rev. Beth commended Charlie, Sara, and the whole Finance Committee for all the hard work and the good job they did in creating the 2019 Budget and the 5-year forecast.

Search Committee

Representing the Search Committee, Grace reported:

- The Search Committee was very pleased with the two Congregational Meetings and found them very helpful. Enough information was gathered from the meetings to put together our Parish Profile.
- Our consultant, Rev. Percy Grant, is on a sabbatical and a new consultant from Toledo is helping.
- The Diocese is providing good assistance.

Rector's Report

- Christmas Eve services will be at 5:30pm and 10:00pm.
- A Christmas Day service will be held at 10:00am.
- Lessons and Carols will be at the 10:00am service on the Sunday after Christmas. Outgoing Vestry members will be asked to be Lectors.

Stewardship

The month of November will be Stewardship Campaign month. A Stewardship letter will be sent to all who have pledged in the past and to those who are considered members. The letter will emphasize that Stewardship is not only about a financial commitment, but also about attending, participating, and inviting others to our parish. The Vestry selected one of three versions of the letter presented for review by Rev. Beth. The letters will be signed by Rev. Beth and the Junior and Senior Wardens.

Other Stewardship awareness efforts will be:

- A “Stewardship Corner” in the Lion’s Pause
- A Stewardship message in the Sunday Bulletins as space permits
- Sermons will contain Stewardship messages.
- Stewardship-oriented prayers during the Prayers of the People
- Individual reflections will be given during the announcements on Sundays. Examples of reflections are “How the church has affected my life”, “What St. Mark’s means to me”, stories of generosity, how we are changed by giving, etc.
- The Vestry and other leaders in the church are being asked to turn in their pledges early to show 100% support by the leaders of the church.
- A handwritten thank-you note will be sent within a week after a pledge card is received. We may use a pool of people to write and send the cards so it is not too much work for one person.
- Christy suggested that we add Legacy Giving to the pledge cards to increase awareness.
- Consideration was given to putting a proportional giving (tithing) chart on the back of the pledge card. After discussion it was decided not to do this.
- On December 2nd there will be a blessing of the pledges.

Other Business

Rev. Beth will be announcing in the Lion’s Pause that she was given a 6-year appointment to the Episcopal Church’s 18-member Standing Commission on Word Mission. The group is charged with envisioning future directions for the Episcopal Church’s global mission work and engagement, and collaborating with different church groups and organizations to facilitate world mission. The Vestry congratulated Rev. Beth on this well-deserved honor.

Sara reported that Altar Guild’s expenses are exceeding income. Instead of raising the cost of flower donations, she will advertise dates that donations are needed to get more donations. October 27th will be a work day to polish silver and reorganize supplies. Christmas decorations will be put up any time after Advent 3, which is December 16th.

There will be a nonpartisan prayer service the evening before the election on Monday, November 5, 2018. Weaver School will be closed on Election Day.

The meeting was adjourned without motion at 7:25pm.

The next meeting is Wednesday, November 7, 2018 at 6:00pm. Derek Gordon will provide the devotions.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Violand
Clerk