

St. Mark's Episcopal Church Vestry Minutes

January 21, 2020

Attending: Reverend Susie Comer, Chris Abbott, Joe Eiche, Isobel Gotschall, Susan Hylton, Lee Leaman, Bettye Newberry, Jeanne Reaves

Absent: Vince Arnold, Brandon Fletcher, Charlie Phillips

Opening

1. Opening prayer was led by Susie Comer.
2. Reverend Susie Comer called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with a reading of the Vision Statement.
3. Approval of the Agenda was moved by Lee Leaman and seconded by Susan Hylton. It was approved unanimously.
4. Two corrections were made to the minutes of the December 17, 2019 Vestry Meeting. The new Vestry member's name is Jon Eiche, not Joe Eiche, and keys were not given to new Vestry members but entry codes were. Lee Leaman moved for the approval of the corrected minutes; the motion was seconded by Susan Hylton and passed unanimously.

Calendar

1. References to the January 26 and the February 9 services were corrected to read 10 o'clock instead of 1 o'clock.
2. Addition of April 19 Easter Mass which will be titled "Around the World" and will showcase different musical styles from countries around the world.
3. The March 20 fish fry will be changed to March 27 because of Spring Break. The March 6 fish fry remains unchanged.
4. The Vestry Retreat will begin at 9:30 AM on February 8. Reverend Susie Comer, Lee Leaman, and Jon Eiche are going Friday to make preparations.

Committee Reports

1. The Finance Committee report was made by Lee Leaman. The balance sheet shows the \$15,000 transfer from Wells Fargo to Amegy for liquidity purposes. The decision that needs to be made is to leave it at Amegy or return it to Wells Fargo. If it is paid back, the loss for the year will go from <3650> to <18,650>. If it is left, liquidity will be better, and the loss will be lower. The decision was to pay the money back to Wells Fargo. The full report is part of the Report to the Annual Parish Meeting.
2. The SMES Financial Report was given by Lee Leaman. The balance sheet shows \$55,000 in cash with the only liability being the church's note of \$14,500. The revenue is slightly behind the budget as well as the profit for the month. The year-to-date picture is ahead of the budget. He noted also that the school is working on enrollment for the next year and does not have firm figures yet.
3. The Budget Report was given by Lee Leaman. He explained that the church has a matching grant offer of \$30,000. Without this grant and the church's match, the church will be in a world of hurt. He believes that it is easily possible to reach the matching goal. The church has received

pre-paid pledges of \$80,000, so the first two-thirds of the year should present no liquidity issues. The church is due the \$14,500 from SMES as payment on its note, and the school intends to make this payment sometime between April and the end of July. The school has budgeted \$1600 for shared expenses. On the expense side, the budget is roughly flat in comparison with last year's budget. Lee Leaman moved and Bettye Newberry seconded that the Vestry can formally accept the budget at the next meeting if all the numbers are put in the system and the budget is printed. The motion carried. The proposed budget can be found in the Annual Report to the Parish.

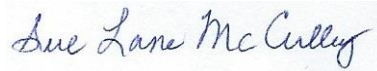
4. The Statements of Giving Report was given by Lee Leaman who said that the statements need to be reconciled with the pledges. There is also a need for a follow-up procedure to collect pledges, such a how do people want to be contacted? And how often do church members need reminders? On a related issue, Reverend Susie Comer said that she will make it clear at the Annual Parish Meeting that Sandy Barkerding was not fired by the Vestry and that it was more logical and more operationally streamlined to have Kim Hart assume some of the bookkeeping duties at the same rate of pay that Sandy was receiving.
5. There was no Senior Warden's report per se (see Lee Leaman's reports above).
6. Junior Warden Jon Eiche reported on the progress on the Reading Road Project. There is an issue with a property owner who does not want to grant access on her property. The County has enough funds for the right of way for the road if the land is donated, but the County cannot afford a lawsuit. One solution is to float a Mobility Bond to fight a condemnation proceeding. SME has the choice to join the bond issue or decline. The George Ranch Development is going ahead of schedule, and when it is done, SME will be in a box will with no road out if SME declines to join the Mobility Bond. Jon Eiche made the motion to join the Mobility Bond, and Susan Hylton seconded; the motion passed. One member reported that the light for one of the exit signs was burned out. Jon Eiche promised to do a walk-through with Lee Leaman and Dwayne (?) to check for similar issues. Updates on repairs included that a compressor on the freezer need replacing; and the ice machine has been cleaned, but the filter already needs replacing.
7. Chris Abbott asked that ??? be added to the list of things to be discussed at the Vestry Retreat.
8. For Formation, Chris Abbot reported that attendance in Godly Play and Kids Kingdom is low.
9. For Missional, Chris Abbott reported the nine youth are going to the Beacon (a resource for the homeless) at Christ Cathedral to serve breakfast to the homeless. The EYC Committee met, and the kids want more trips; but the trips are becoming more and more expensive. SME has some scholarship money for Camp Allen which is filling up fast. Other activities for kids are Happening and Yes.
10. Various committees were assigned to Vestry members as follows:
 - Welcome Committee—Charlie Phillips
 - Missional—Susan Hylton
 - Outreach—Jeanne Reaves
 - Young Families—Brandon Fletcher
 - Worship—Jon Eiche

Big Events—Bettye Newberry

Fellowship—Isobel. Lee Leaman volunteered to take of Easter refreshments.

11. The Rector's Report revealed that she is working on the Annual Report to the Parish. Representatives to the Diocesan Council in Waco on February 7-8 will be elected at the Annual Meeting. Bishop Doyle wants to implement a new way of reporting church attendance. In addition to counting attendance every Sunday, he wants new visitors (those who have attended less than six months) and retained visitors (those who have attended more than six months but have not yet become members) identified and counted. He also wants counts of all worship attendees in the sanctuary and outside of the sanctuary.
12. There were no thank you notes to be written.
13. Compline was led by Susan Hylton. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sue Lane McCulley". The signature is written in a cursive style and is set against a light blue rectangular background.

Sue Lane McCulley

February 9, 2020