

## St. Mark's Episcopal Church Vestry Minutes

August 17, 2021

**Attending:** The Reverend Susie Hebert, Chris Abbott, Michelle D'Antuono, Vince Arnold (ex officio), Dwayne Dawlearn, Jon Eiche, Melissa Hamon, Lee Leaman, Charlie Phillips, Jeanne Reaves

**Absent:** Elisa Hughes

1. Susie Hebert opened the meeting with a prayer at 6:34 PM.
2. A motion to add a discussion about the billboard
3. A motion to add a discussion to the agenda was made by Chris Abbott and seconded by Charlie Phillips. The motion passed.
4. The Minutes of the May 18, 2021 meeting were not voted on.
5. The calendar was approved as printed with one addition—the next Vestry meeting will be September 14.
6. Priest's Report
  - a. A number of small repairs have been done.
  - b. The newsletter format has changed; the website has been updated and geared to the phone.
  - c. The church is looking at a VOIP system for the phone system and all computer files will be in the cloud. These moves will save money in the long run.
  - d. The office has been printing approximately forty bulletins each week which seems to be a sufficient number.
  - e. Facebook has designated churches as a business platform which will allow churches to accept donations.
  - f. There is a need to figure out how to sync MEVO with Facebook.
  - g. YouTube Live for church services is not an option at this time because 1,000 + likes are required.
  - h. The church is considering asking for donations instead of purchasing poinsettias at Christmas for the sanctuary.
  - i. The CDC recommends a Covid booster shot eight months after the second dose of the vaccine.
  - j. New members are coming to the church.
  - k. An ongoing priority is to connect people who are *not in* church with those who are *in* church. A calling tree was suggested.
  - l. Audits of 2019 and 2020 church finances are needed.
  - m. The insurance claims on the fire in the fire suppression have been mostly paid. An examination of the diesel motor revealed that it had not been entirely destroyed, but the controller is bad because of all the smoke. The suppression system inspection has been set for June 2022 prior to the fire marshal's visit in August 2022.

### 7. Billboard

The Senior Warden needs to contact TXDOT to correct the drainage problem

### Committee Reports

1. The Finance Committee report was made by Lee Leaman who reported that the finances are in good shape. There is a \$590 bill for payment processing that the church secretary is trying to

track down. When he returns from Colorado, he and the church secretary will do a pledge analysis.

2. Senior Warden Lee Leaman moved that the number of Vestry members be changed from nine to seven, and Chris Abbott seconded the motion. After some discussion, a vote was taken; and the motion failed. The Nominating Committee for new Vestry members is composed of Lee Leaman, Chris Abbott, and Dwayne Dawlearn. Susie Hebert reminded them that the Vestry needs approval from the diocese to have a continuing member on the Vestry.
3. Junior Warden Jon Eiche reported the following:
  - a. The fire suppression system problem has been resolved.
  - b. The ceilings have been repaired.
  - c. The church does not have a management system for the AC system. Not all the drain pans are connected. The church secretary will contact companies for estimates to fix the drain pan problem and also to perform routine maintenance and inspections.
  - d. The flowers are suffering from the heat and deer snacking on them. The urns also should be checked regularly to see if there is enough water.
  - e. The wall in the narthex has been painted.
  - f. Toilets have been repaired or replaced.
  - g. The sprinkler system has been repaired.
  - h. The septic system is being checked.
  - i. No action will be taken on buying a dishwasher until it is being used more.
4. School Board Liaison Michelle D'Antuono reported the following:
  - a. There are 15 students enrolled for the fall, mostly 18-month and 2-year olds.
  - b. The school got a \$40,000 grant from the state.
  - c. The Board is looking for a teacher to replace the one who resigned.
  - d. The Summer Camp made a small amount of money.
5. Formation and Youth Chair Chris Abbott began her report with a question, asking why ministry leaders were not informed about the Ministry Fair this coming Sunday. Then she made the following report:
  - a. Kids Kingdom will not have face-to-face classes. She has recorded the first five sessions, she has supplies, but there are no children yet; there may be four.
  - b. For the 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> graders, Charlie Yates and Isobel Gotschall will be among those to help with the requirements of Safe Guarding God's Children. Chris Abbott will be teaching the class. Chris Abbott will check with Calvary and Holy Comforter to research what they are going to do for this level.
  - c. The Juvenile Diabetes Walk may be virtual. \$2600 has already been raised.
6. Welcome Committee Charlie Phillips said that he had little to report except that he had talked to new people who came to church.
7. Outreach Chair Jeanne Reeves reported the following:
  - a. She did not know much about the distribution of donated school supplies, but she will get with Isobel Gottschall to find out.

- b. She will establish a relationship with the Women's Shelter to give children who are staying their books to promote literacy. The goal is for everybody in the church to get a list of desired books and to order a book to be sent to the church. Nameplates will be affixed to each book with a child's name.
  - c. Another project is to send lunches to nurses on Covid units in hospitals in Fort Bend County.
8. Big Events and Fellowship Chair Melissa Hamon had no report.
  9. Worship and Choir Chair Susie Hebert reported that there is no choir at the present but that we do have music because of the extraordinary faithfulness of a few (especially Tom and Brent Thompson and Julie. Jon Eiche and Susie Hebert will meet on August 18 about the direction of the worship service.
  10. There was no Fellowship report at this time.
  11. Susie Hebert, Melissa Hamon and Jon Eiche will create a document on Vestry duties.
  12. There were no thank you notes to be written
  13. The reverend Susie Hebert gave a closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Sue Lane McCulley

September 12, 2021