

St. David's Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes
August 21, 2019

Present: Mary-Esther Arther, Mary Harbinsky, Pat Hodde, Bonnie Hook, Kathy Kent, Nancy Moody, Jon Richardson, Mike Roehrer, John Simonelli, Marty Stanton

The Rev. Jon Richardson called the meeting to order at 6:59 p.m. and declared a quorum.

Mr. Roehrer opened the meeting with prayer.

Mrs. Kent spoke of her travels and the different ways people express spirituality. In Nepal the hand painted mandalas are a part of meditation. Mandala is the Sanskrit word for circle. The Vestry was provided with mandala designs and colored pencils and markers. To the sound of Nepali meditative music, we chose a design and meditatively colored our selection. The members of the vestry found the experience calming.

Added to the proposed vestry agenda were a report from Budget and Finance and an item to approve the expense for tree removal. Mr. Stanton moved to approve the agenda as amended. Mr. Roehrer seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The minutes for the June 19th meeting contained a typo on page 2. The blank bullet point under Method Donor will be removed and in bullet point 4 *date* will be changed to *data*. Mr. Simonelli moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Mrs. Arther seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Listening from the Congregation

- A member noted the Episcopal flag in the front of the church due to its poor condition needs to be replaced. A new flag has been donated and will be flown beginning with the bishop's visit.
- A member reflected that when the choir rehearses, the choir has an opportunity to learn unfamiliar work. During the summer, new hymns are not easy to sight read. This member suggested more familiar hymns be chosen during the summer months especially for post communion. Rev. Richardson noted that hymns are chosen to coordinate with the readings.
- A member expressed concern about the noise in the narthex before the service. The socialization is not conducive for meditation or contemplation.

Stewardship

Mr. Simonelli reported:

- The Wine and Cheese pairing netted \$218.00.
- The parish barbeque was a success.
- Sept. 7th is the Thrill of the Grill.

- Stewardship will provide refreshments for the Celebration of New Ministry.
- K-fest does not have a coordinator.
- Mrs. Moody volunteered to chair the garage sale.
- The Stewardship brunch will be Sept. 22nd.

Outreach

Mrs. Harbinsky reported:

- Six more checks were sent last week to local food pantries and North Porch. So far this year \$4,800 has been distributed.
- The Outreach Committee recommends that the Vestry Christmas letter name Willing Hands, the Interfaith Collation for Morris County, and Episcopal Relief and Development as recipients of the donations. The recommendation carried.
- We will again collect gifts for children of incarcerated parents and knit for Seamen's Church Institute.
- The Rev. Sharon Hausman will speak about her prison ministry on Sept. 15th.

Budget and Finance

Mr. Simonelli reported:

- The committee is pleased with our financial standing.
- Markets have been doing well,
- We currently have 37 pledging units and aim to receive 40.
- Mrs. Dolci and Mr. Roehrer will compile and prioritize list of needed repairs.

Thanksgivings

- To the Rev. George Wong for providing coverage while Rev. Richardson was on vacation.
- To Mr. Stanton and Mr. Simonelli for their additional work during Rev. Richardson's vacation.
- To Mrs. Dolci and Mr. Roehrer for their expert handling of the tree emergency.
- To Mr. Kidney for serving as chalice bearer and on altar guild for the DeVincenzo wedding.
- To Mr. Baskinger for cleaning and repairing the church grills.
- To Mrs. Moody for filling in as substitute musician during Sal's vacation.
- To Rev. Richardson and Mr. Kidney for opening their home for the parish barbeque.
- To Mr. Horton and Mrs. Hook for all their hard work fine-tuning the financial reports.
- To Mr. Roehrer for his diligence as Property Committee chairman.

QuickBooks

Mrs. Hook reported:

- Working with Mr. Horton the fine-tuning continues.
- Grocery card's income and expense accounting is now in order.

- The new format will provide clearer and more concise reports.
- Mrs. Harbinsky moved to approve the report. Mr. Stanton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Remarks

Mrs. Arther reported we were on budget.

Safeguarding God's Children/People

- Mrs. Arther has completed the training.
- Vestry members who have not completed the training were strongly encouraged to complete the training. This training is required by the Diocese for everyone in leadership positions. Certificates can be printed when the course is completed.

Financial Stewardship Materials

- Mrs. Arther moved to approve the form as presented. Mr. Stanton seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- The letter was amended to indicate the wardens are signing the letter for the wardens and vestry. Mrs. Harbinsky moved to approve the letter as amended. Mrs. Moody seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- The tri-fold was corrected to indicate under questions and answer the budget is for 2019 instead of 2018, there is no bullet point by neighbor, and no bullet point by fiscal. Mr. Stanton moved to approve the tri-fold as corrected. Mr. Roehrer seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Staff Performance Reviews

The Rev. Richardson developed a form to use during the reviews. The reviews are completed and went very well. Annual staff reviews will be instituted.

Celebration of New Ministry

- Cards have been mailed to the congregation.
- Invitations were sent to about 200 leaders of the diocese.
- The celebration has been advertised in all the print media we use.
- Volunteers are needed to assist Mrs. Dolci and Mrs. Hook coordinating the reception.

Property

Mr. Roehrer reported:

- The driveway visibility guard rail has been completed.
- A tree at the rectory was damaged during a storm. Appleseed removed the downed portion of the tree.
- Mr. Stanton moved to approve the payment of \$900 to Appleseed for the removal of the downed portion of the tree. Mrs. Arther seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- Superior Tree Removal provided a quote of \$2,500 to finish the removal. Mrs. Harbinsky moved to approve the contract to remove the tree. Mrs. Arther seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- The payment for the tree removal will be taken from the Whitehead and Elizabeth Williams bequests. Mrs. Moody moved to remove the money from the Whitehead and Williams bequests for the tree removal. Mrs. Hook seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Calendar

- Corrections for the September 2019 calendar; on the 2nd chance Office closed to office closed, on the 3rd 7:00 pm. Mr. Simonelli moved to approve the calendar as amended. Mr. Roehrer seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- 2018-2019 Parish Program calendar corrections; 12/1 is the Parish Budget forum, 12/8 Outreach Ingathering, 5/9 Plant Sale pickup, First Sundays Healing Prayers offered delete "after communion," Outreach Committee meetings are at 10:30. Mrs. Kent moved to approve the calendar as amended. Mrs. Moody seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Roeher moved to end the meeting. Mrs. Kent seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting ended at 8:49 pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Harbinsky, Clerk