

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting Minutes
April 7, 2021

Present: Fr. RJ, John Wise, Sr. Warden; Bruce Hixon, Jr. Warden; Linda Deuble, Carol Hayn, Marcia Kiesling, Mandy Pelger, Caroline Willoughby

Not Present: Beth Crowl, Gene Little

Guests: Charlie Kiesling, Treasurer

The Vestry met virtually via Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The meeting was called to order at 5:37pm by Fr. RJ. Mandy opened the meeting with a devotion on the Power of Resurrection and a prayer.

Carol **motioned** to accept the minutes of the March 3, 2021 meeting. Mandy seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

End of Life Ministry

- The End of Life Ministry Committee submitted the following **motion**: *The Vestry assigns responsibility to the St. Mark's Trustees to serve as the primary point of contact and clearinghouse for all legacy giving bequests and donations. The Trustees shall review these bequests and donations and provide a recommendation to the Vestry for approval.* The motion was approved unanimously.

Finance Committee

- **SBA Loan**
 - We received a second PPP loan of \$18,700 and it is very likely that it will be forgiven due to our eligible expenses.
- **Diocesan Payment Process**
 - The Diocese has been offering a free convenient online giving system on their website. Pledge payments are received by the Diocese and the forwarded to St. Mark's at no cost. Charlie has written to the diocese and encourage them to continue this after the pandemic has passed.

Wardens' Reports

- No reports.

Rector's Report

- **Weaver School**
 - Fr. RJ spoke with Susie about our current space-sharing arrangement, as we will need the undercroft again by fall. Bruce and Fr. RJ will meet with her again to find a way to make it work for both parties.
- **Holy Week**
 - On Palm Sunday, 30 parishioners came to our drive-through palm distribution, and Fr. RJ was glad for the opportunity to see and talk to people.

Parochial Report

- The Parochial Report was reviewed by all Vestry members. John **motioned** to approve the Parochial Report with the few minor changes that were noted in discussion. Linda seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

In-Person Services Revisited

- After much discussion, the Vestry made several decisions about returning to in-person services.
 - We will aim to return to in-person services on May 2nd and will maintain all necessary safety precautions.
 - We will continue to livestream all services.
 - We will hold one service at 9:00 initially and then eventually return to 8:00 and 10:00 services.
 - If the temperature is above 60°, we will hold services in the outdoor chapel.
 - Sunday School will resume in-person.

Stewardship Team Training

- The Diocese is partnering with TENS, The Episcopal Network for Stewardship, which is a webinar series about developing a year-long stewardship program.
- The program is about general stewardship and involvement in the parish, not just about money.
- There is no cost to the parish for the program and we would benefit from the ideas and materials that are provided.
- Charlie is coordinating registration for the first virtual meeting on May 4th which is about recruiting and training a stewardship team. A team leader will be determined after the meeting.
- Fr. RJ said he has used the TENS process before in other parishes, and it takes stewardship out of the paradigm of fundraising and gives it a different approach.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm with a **motion** by John, seconded by Bruce, and approved unanimously.

The next meeting is Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at 5:30pm. Linda will provide the Reflection and Prayer for the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Violand
Clerk