

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting Minutes
November 4, 2020

Present: Fr. Gaston, Derek Gordon, Sr. Warden; Grace Giammarco, Jr. Warden; Beth Crowl, Linda Deuble, Bruce Hixon, Marcia Kiesling, Beck Rand, Caroline Willoughby, John Wise

Excused: Bob Kennedy

Guest: Charlie Kiesling, Treasurer

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by Fr. RJ, who opened the meeting with a prayer and Psalm 131 which is comforting for times when things seem out of control.

Bruce **motioned** to accept the minutes of the October 7, 2020 meeting. Grace seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Finance Committee

- **Stewardship Campaign**
 - Pledges that have been received were blessed on Sunday, November 1, 2020.
 - An email will be sent to remind parishioners who have not turned in their pledges yet to turn them in. Pledges are needed to facilitate development of the 2021 Budget.

Senior Warden's Report

- **Vestry Nominations**
 - Derek has received 11 nominations for Vestry members so far. The Nominating Committee will contact those nominated to see who is willing to serve. Derek wants to end up with a slate of 3 candidates.
- **Nametags**
 - When we can have in-person services again, parishioners should wear their nametags. Derek expressed appreciation for the work MaryAnn Kiesling and Katie did to research and purchase the nametags, which will be very helpful for Fr. RJ and visitors.
- **Outreach**
 - Bradley Mull's Eagle Scout Service project is to provide 250 Christmas Care Bags to children at Hope Outreach Ministry. Derek presented Bradley's proposal that St. Mark's could support his project by sponsoring one or more children at \$5 each, purchasing quantities of requested items, or contacting others for donations. We have already spent our Community Outreach funds for the year, but we would be able to contribute \$200 in matching funds. Derek **motioned** to pledge \$200 in matching funds to Bradley Mull's Hope Outreach Scout project. Beth seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved. Parishioners will be notified so they can contribute as they wish.

Junior Warden's Report

- Grace reported that the parish was very excited for our first service with Fr. RJ.

Vestry Introductions

- Vestry members introduced themselves to Fr. RJ, and Fr. RJ introduced himself to the Vestry. He is looking forward to meeting all the parishioners.

Rector's Report

- **Boy Scout Troops**
 - Fr. RJ asked if St. Mark's had ever sponsored, chartered, or hosted a Boy Scout or Cub Scout Troop, as we only have a few days remaining to file for immunity from current lawsuits. If meetings had ever been held in our church, the Diocese wants us to file as something we should do for our own protection.
- **Parish Introductions**
 - Fr. RJ will be making phone calls to meet all members of the parish, beginning with the most urgent and the key ministry people.
- **Communication**
 - Fr. RJ is depending upon the Vestry and other parishioners to let him know of anyone needing pastoral care. The best method of contact is either cell phone, or email if there are a lot of details.
 - Fr. RJ is committed to doing a lot of listening to learn about our parish.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 6:27pm.

The next meeting is Wednesday December 2, 2020 at 5:30pm. John will provide the devotions.

Respectfully submitted,



Karen Violand
Clerk