

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
The Vestry of St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
January 28, 2018**

**Present:** Frank Horrigan, Stephen Sumpter, Jon Delano, Ell Vines, Geoff Hurd, Mark Lamendola, Lisa Brown, Ginny Barnicoat, Gina Brownfield, Bob Johnston, Jon Delano  
**Absent:** Jon Paulus

**Clergy Present:** The Rev. Noah H. Evans

VPOM: Frank Horrigan

7:05 Meeting Called to Order. Opening Reflections: Exiting vestry members responded to questions regarding their vestry experiences.

Ell: Best experience was watching vestry make sense out of chaos, establishing ground rules for guidance. He liked watching the interactions of clergy. Ell would like to see fruition of the Capital Campaign and to see the Endowment fund take off.

Jon D: Best experience: Serving as Senior Warden for 2 years overseeing the departure of the retiring Rector, the search and call for his replacement, and the transition and installation of a new Rector. This was Jon's 3rd term on vestry; he has been impressed and appreciative of the skills and talents of St.P people. He would like the vestry to have shorter meetings and suggests having a "think piece" in meetings for discussions of broader picture items. Advice to new vestry: Keep an open mind. His dream is for StP to put its stamp on the community.

Lisa: Best experience: Scooping ice cream with Jon D on the Sundae Sunday, interacting with parishioners. She is grateful for the integration of prayer and scripture study into vestry meetings. Lisa, after talking with people from Episcopal churches around country feels that StP is an anomaly - - doing a lot of things right. She loves the number of children in church. Lisa recommends that we 'Dream Big' and spend time in that. Advises vestry to be gatherers. Her dream for StP is that everyone who comes thru our doors can live into their ministry and that StP empowers them.

Pat: Best experience was being part of the rector search team and on the vestry simultaneously. Pat has spent 1/8 of her life as a vestry member. She is most proud of the Outreach Commission, and that StP made sure that it remained an Episcopal Church. She remembers first joining the church and being amazed that the laity has a strong voice in the workings of the church. Her advice to incoming vestry is to get to know your strengths and to go with your passion. Pat's dream is for StP to be a beacon for community and for embracing diversity.

2. Motion to approve December minutes by LB, seconded by ML. All in favor.

3. Executive committee report: Noah has not been paid correctly; this will be resolved. Other salaried employees also have discrepancies due to change in number of pay periods over last year.

#### 4. Rector's Report:

Items for February vestry meeting will be moved to the March organizational meeting due to Noah and others being in the Holy Land in Feb.

The March organizational meeting will be on Saturday, March 2 at StP from 8:30AM-12noon.

Doug Starr will be on a sabbatical from the end of May until the week before Labor Day. Motion to pay CCooper to fill in for Doug during the sabbatical using FOM funds up to \$3000, LB, seconded by PS. 10Yay, 0 Nay

Motion to use a check that was donated to FOM specifically for the purpose of organ recital to pay \$2000 for an upcoming Bach concert, JD, seconded by FH. 11 Yay, 0 Nay  
PTS has asked us to consider utilizing another intern this year, it would not be in the area of children and youth. CAdams will be doing another field ed study this year at a parish of different denomination.

There are a number of "One Off" programs being put into place and others being considered. Examples include movie screenings, (3 different ones), and possible group discussion of "Good Place" show.

Need to appoint a Judge of Elections for Annual Meeting. Motion to appoint Ed Hanraty to be Judge of Elections, JD, seconded by FH. 11 Yay, 0 Nay

There will be a meeting at 12noon on Sunday to discuss various options for the Christmas Pageant. This year there were 571 people attending which is unsafe. Suggestions include putting pageant at a different venue or holding it on a different date. We are in conversations with the Lutheran Church on Washington Rd about having a Palm Sunday walk with a live donkey. (!!)

During Lent, StP will have adult and child centered programs on Wednesday nights.

The topic for both groups will be the Sermon on the Mount.

During Lent there will also be a group discussions about theological conflicts. Send in your ideas for specific conflicts that could be discussed.

Pledges for the year now are in the "green zone". Would love to see \$7-8K more come in. We have received approx. 240 pledges.

Noah is meeting with 3-4 newcomers each week.

#### 5. Senior Warden's Report

Thanks to Jon, Ell, and Lisa for their vestry service

Thank you to all who got the commission reports into Erin on time

Jon Delano: Announcement of vestry candidates (still time to put other names forward).

*Michelle Baum, Meghan Clark, Freya Dickson La Prade, Jennifer Dudgeon, Jamie Van Nostron, Derik Moore, Ell Vines, Kathleen Davies Hendricks, John Sheehan*

Vestry Candidate Forum: February 17

Updated Bylaws to secure approval from the standing committee. Things are more democratic in this version. There is now conformity with the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church and of the Episcopal Diocese of Pgh.

Motion to approve this draft as the official Bylaws, JD, seconded by PS. 11 Yay, 0 Nay

### Jr. Warden's Report

Thick ice at playground end of parking lot, indicating excessive water run-off, and blocking parking spaces. Looking into putting in drainage ditch.

Need to assess whether St. Margaret's garden work on leveling and drainage is a priority as there has been improvement in that area helped by the clearing of the french drain.

Bill was able to fix the ice machine

Van needs inspection by Jan 31 - - will be done.

Proposal and discussion about entering into a 2 year agreement with G.S. Jones maintenance program. Mark is familiar with them and says it is helpful to be a high priority and get more immediate attention when a maintenance crisis occurs. The program is free; G.S. Jones would be first call in case of issue.

Motion to enter into 2 year agreement with G.S. Jones, EV, seconded by SS. 11 Yay, 0 Nay

### Treasurer's Report

Discussion of movement of funds to allow year end budget totals to be balanced.

There was a 10K overpayment to insurance company that will help balance budget.

Motion to use \$8000 of cotillion money to pay salary for our 3 interns (up to cost), BJ, seconded by FH. 11 Yay, 0 Nay

Motion to spend \$9K from Capital Campaign to pay for trench for water run-off issues, FH, seconded by JD. 11 Yay, 0 Nay

December financial statements will be sent out soon

### Stewardship (Frank)

Online pledging system is being reviewed. Jim Miorelli is hopeful that he can make it more user friendly.

Request by Ell: Can we include a tab for contributions to the Endowment Fund?

Report on Boy Scout Troop (Lisa) - the group is chugging along. Discussion as to whether there will be a girls boy scout troop. Explanation that this is a different program from Girls Scouts. If there are girls who wish to do this, then Lisa would facilitate.

### Commission Reports:

Children and Youth (sent electronically)

Fellowship: no report

Outreach: SWES meals going well. As per email to parish, a good bit of money was spent on various outreach missions before end of 2019. Kitchen cabinet work is still pending. There are 2 upcoming events sponsored by the refugee support group.

Pastoral Care: no report

Property Commission (sent electronically)

Worship: Will be having meeting this week

Newcomers: Fabulous reception with 9 new families

Forma Conference: Lisa, Frankie, Christina A. all attended. Came back inspired and enriched. "Formation is fundamental to all we do", Lisa. The large conference next

year will be in Atlanta. Conference helps those in parish to seek out the underrepresented voices in our community.

Finance: met last week; working on a financial procedural manual.

Spiritual Formation: meeting soon

Sustainability: Climate Change talks coming soon, and are posted online. There will be a movie screening, and a composting workshop. Discussions underway as to making the parking lot a semi permeable material. Ell - this doesn't work well here as the substrate is clay which is impermeable. Group noticing that more and more churches are getting solar panels.

Report on Assistant Rector Search (Ginny) Process is going smoothly and is on track time-wise. Search team is great!

#### New Business

Mark Lamendola: There is an outreach opportunity in New Kensington. "Knead Community Cafe" provides free community dinners. Could StP underwrite one of those dinners? Pat: Submit to Outreach Committee in writing

Jon Delano reported on Project CREED (Committee to Re-envision the Diocese of Pittsburgh), which the Bishop has asked him to lead in his role as president of Diocesan Council. Approximately 40 team leaders are expected to meet shortly to break into working groups, examining (1) governance structures, (2) new initiatives within the parishes and Diocese, (3) ways to better reach out to our neighbors, (4) improving communication among the parishes and Diocese. The goal is to develop action plans in each area. There is an opportunity for additional St. Paul's people to participate in this project.

Meeting Evaluation: Short, good food, great to reflect on our roles, accomplished a lot, nice to be able to laugh and to be with each other.

#### Prayers for the parish:

Election of new vestry, welcome newcomers, for Mission of Hope team, healing, be with those having surgery, Diocesan Task Force, clarity for Asst. Rector search, for those going to the Holy land, that the Annual Meeting is productive and spirit filled.