

Minutes Vestry Meeting

May 12, 2022

5:30 PM

Mtg via ZOOM

Present: The Rev. Betty Glover (Rector), Charlene Marth (Junior Warden) Roslyn Allen, Laura Bender, Allan Hayton (Senior Warden), Tom Marsh, Allen Todd.

Absent: Maggie Castellini (Clerk), Ann Fleenor, Mary Johnston, and Jessica Ives (Parish Administrator).

Laura Bender served as the Clerk.

Opening Prayer: Allen Todd

Approval of Minutes: Allen T. moved to accept the minutes for the April 21, 2022 meeting as corrected. Charlene 2nd. Motion passed.

Junior Warden Report: Charlene Marth

- Installation of the 2nd Avenue door has been completed.
- Parish Hall asbestos abatement has been completed.
 - \$10,000.00 Faith into Tomorrow (FIT) grant was awarded.
 - Daren at Xtreme Environmental was contacted by St. Matthew's insurance agency for a square footage quote on repair costs. Daren thought it would be in the range of \$10,000.00-\$15,000.00.
- Sacristy mold removal and repair should start next week. The quote was \$602.00 (which does not include replacement cabinetry or the replacement of the floor.)
- Sole Source Contract is being reviewed by G2 and then will go to Allen Todd for final review.
- Columbarium: Should have an initial meeting soon.
- Visioning: Charlene has contacted a colleague, Tracey Snow, who does professional leadership/visioning. She has agreed to help St. Matthew's start the process, without cost.

Finance Report: Allen Todd, Treasurer

- We are about a 1/3 of the way through the year but our income is only at 24%.
- Line 6650 – Church Heat: The costs for this time of year are higher than expected.
- Line 6740 – Insurance: Reminder that although this number is lower than expected it is because of the extra insurance payment made in 2021.
- Line 67205 – Fundraising Supplies: \$2681.00 is from the wreath sales last December.
- Expenses are still trending higher than income received.
- Line 31216 - James Moody Bequest: does not reflect the \$70,000.00 that the Vestry approved to be transferred at the March 2022 meeting.
- 2022 Operating Income and Expense we went from having a \$9,419.00 deficit in February to a \$23,447.00 deficit in March to a \$26,197.00 deficit in April.
- Income for the May 8th Sunday was \$11,821.00, which was much higher than estimated.

- Mother Betty mentioned that she has heard from the Accounting Firm that St. Matthew's uses that they are not able to continue to serve St. Matthew's. So, we need to find a new accounting firm.
- With no objections, the Finance Report was accepted as presented.

Parish Administrator Report: presented by Mother Betty

- The keyless entry system on the new door is not working correctly. Larson's has been contacted and they will be repairing the entry system.
- Suggested June 2, 2022, at 5:30 pm as a Special Vestry Meeting with Jessica to discuss going forward.

Rector's Report: Mother Betty

- Review of Services: Discussion on returning to in-person services, Mass-on-the-Grass, or continuing with Live-stream services. Because of the weather forecast and the mold issue that hasn't been cleaned up, it was decided to live-stream the service on May 15th and Mother Betty will announce in the E-Blast that starting Sunday, May 22nd services will be outside (Mass-on-the-Grass) weather permitting, or inside if we have inclement weather.
- Endowment Board Grants: Based on the recommendations from the Endowment Board the Vestry approves or declines the grant requests. This year the Endowment Board has \$21,000.00 to give out in grants but only received three applications.
 - Dancing with the Spirit (\$4500.00) – approved.
 - Angels in Motion (\$1500.00) – approved.
 - Request to fund graduate work in ministry from a man in Africa – not approved.
 - 10% of the remaining \$15,000.00 was set aside for 2023 grants.
 - Approximately \$13,500.00 will be added to the Dr. Wood fund established for St. Matthew's Episcopal Church land acquisition and improvement (building fund).
 - **Motion:** Tom moved to accept the recommendations of the Endowment Board, Charlene 2nd. Motion passed.
- Billie Kassel, on behalf of Angels in Motion, would like to be able to do agency shopping at the Fairbanks Food Bank. Approved agencies must have 501(c)(3) status, which Angels in Motion does not have. Billie approached Mother Betty and asked if Angels in Motion could be housed under St. Matthew's so they can have the 501(c)(3) status required. Mother Betty had a conversation with Samantha Castle Kirstein at the Food Bank that didn't go well. Allan suggested reaching out to the Executive Director, Ann Weaver, to see if we can resolve any past issues that the Food Bank may have had with St. Matthew's.
- Mother Betty's last Sunday will be a Mass-On-the-Grass on June 5th. The Bishop will preach and celebrate. There will also be a liturgy of Pastoral Leave Taking from the book of Occasional Services.
- Future services will utilize supply priests and lay ministers, while plans are made for an Interim Rector/Rector search.

New Business: Bishop Lattime joined the meeting to discuss what's next for the future of St. Matthew's regarding priorities.

- Encouraged us to "be at ease", pray with gratitude, and be ambassadors for St. Matthew's.

- For the short term, Jessica and the Bishop, and others will be looking at who is available to serve as supply priests for Sunday services, as well as relying on lay persons to conduct worship leadership.
- He will be looking for an intentional interim rector, as well as working with St. Matthew's to begin the search for a permanent rector.
- Encouraged us to think about what financial resources we have available and the costs associated with hiring both an interim & permanent rector.
- Allan Hayton received a suggestion of having an exit interview with Mother Betty to hear a summation of her time at St. Matthew's and her ideas, suggestions, and thoughts on how we can be a better church. The Bishop stated he would be happy to be part of this interview if it was mutually agreeable with everyone.
- Mother Betty suggested hiring a part-time technical person who could take over the technical support on Sunday mornings and take that responsibility off Jessica's shoulders.
- Mother Betty also encouraged the Vestry to work with Suzanne Krull at the Diocesan Office and use her as a resource when moving forward.
- The Bishop reiterated that he is available to help us through this process.

Special Vestry meeting – June 2nd.

Next Vestry meeting

Finance – June 14th

Vestry – June 16th

Opening Prayer – Charlene

Closing Prayer – Allen T.

Tom closed the meeting in prayer.

Minutes submitted by Laura Bender