

St. Michael and All Angels Vestry Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2024 12:30PM in the Pavilion

Present: Rector's Warden: Patrick Reilly, Vestry Members: Beth Arthur, Sharon DeLand, Gary Jacobson, Dale Lange, Bill Robinson, Michele McKenzie, Diane McKay, Bruce Roach, Jack Knight, Georgia Will, Clergy: Mike Angell, Mandy Taylor-Montoya, JP Arrossa, Officers: Evelyn Hanneman, Treasurer, Judy Fifield, Clerk

Absent: Vestry Warden: Barbara Koenig, Vestry Member: Chris Alvarez

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:30PM.

Opening Prayer: Mike opened the meeting with a prayer by Marian Wright Edelman (founder of the Children's Defense Fund) titled "To Set the Children Free" from her book Guide My Feet: Prayers and Meditations for Our Children.

Items for Vestry Approval and Review:

Minutes of January 6, 2024 Business Meeting during the Vestry Retreat and Minutes of the January 10, 2024 Special Vestry Meeting were sent out prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Bill for the minutes of both meetings to be approved as written. Beth seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Retired Affiliate Clergy applications required for Diocesan licensure have been prepared for Susan Allison-Hatch, Carolyn Metzler, Maureen Doherty, Joan Farstad, Leslie Nipps, Judith Jenkins, and Jan Bales. The applications were presented to the Vestry. A motion was made by Gary to approve the applications. The motion was seconded by Michele and was unanimously approved. Vestry members signed each individual application.

Reports and Topics:

JP informed the Vestry that the estimated actual budget for 2023 was updated after the Finance Committee meeting. He provided the updated document for review. Pending a couple of outstanding charges and expenses, the church will end 2023 with a surplus of approximately \$10,000.00.

The Finance Committee met on January 16th. They reviewed the proposed 2024 budget and made one change to show an increase in the Givers of Record line item. The Finance Committee recommends approval of the 2024 budget. A motion was made to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee. Several questions were raised regarding the deficit in the proposed 2024 budget. Answers were provided by JP, Evelyn, and Jack. There being no further questions, Mike stated that a second to the motion was not needed. The Vestry unanimously voted to approve the 2024 budget.

Jack reported that Jim Moffit is a member of the Finance Committee.

New Vestry Members/Diocesan Delegates Nomination Report:

In Barbara's absence, Patrick reported the Nominating Committee contacted 10 to 12 parishioners to inquire about their interest in serving on the Vestry. There are four openings and there are four individuals who have expressed interest.

Regarding Diocesan delegates, Jennifer Kepesh has offered to serve another term. One other delegate is needed.

This information will be presented at the Annual Parish Meeting on January 28, 2024. In addition, Mike will announce Mandy's new title. Vestry members – Beth, Georgia, and Sharon - who have served their three-year term will be recognized at the meeting.

New Business: Mike mentioned he would like to have a discussion soon related to working with a Stewardship Consultant. While we continue to be blessed in meeting our financial obligations, church attendance has declined. We are at 230 for average Sunday attendance. We used to be at 300 average Sunday attendance – which represents 1% of all Episcopal Churches. When looking at overall trends, 50% of the Episcopal membership is over 65 years old. There are profound changes happening with church attendance, particularly with young people. We need to start thinking about this – communicating the values of the denomination, how our values are at the core of our identity, and how these core values can be communicated. Mike feels our congregation is ready for this dialogue. Plans are being discussed to schedule some membership conversations in the Spring. A Stewardship Consultant could help lead us through this process.

Upcoming Dates:

January 28, 2024 – Annual Parish Meeting
February 13, 2024 – Mardi Gras/Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
February 14, 2024 – Ash Wednesday
February 25, 2024 – Rescheduled date for Vestry Meeting
2nd Quarter Vestry Retreat – To Be Determined
March 2, 2024 – Celebration for the Rev. JP Arrossa

Closing Prayer: Mandy said the closing prayer.

Adjourn: A motion was made by Michele to adjourn the meeting. A second to the motion was made by Diane. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote. The meeting ended at 1:40PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Fifield
Clerk