

Minutes of St. Paul's Vestry Meeting

December 17, 2019

Rectory

In Attendance: The Reverend Mary Garner, Mike Olson (Senior Warden), Bob North (Junior Warden), Myron Richardson (Treasurer), Vestry Members: Peggy Andrews, Mark Freestate, Dan Macari, Dan Rugg, Kent Young, Tracy Wilson

Absent: Sally Cooper, Matt Ward

1. Call to order: Mary + called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Opening Prayer: Offered by Dan Rugg

3. Minutes of November Meeting: The minutes were corrected and approved by consensus.

4. Report of the Rector – Reverend Mary Garner: Mary+ shared a list of the Vestry Accomplishments for 2019. (Addendum 1)

5. Report of Senior Warden – Mike Olson:

a) Spahn Complaint Update:

The next step may be a Summary Judgment for Mr. Spahn. St. Paul's is free from any responsibility. Mike is keeping in touch with the involved parties.

b) Diocesan Meeting

Mary +, Mike Olson, Bob North and Bob Ozinga attended. In January they will report on the March Convention plans.

c) January 26th Annual Meeting

The election of three new Vestry members will take place. The current officers (Mike Olson – Sr. Warden, Bob North-- Jr. Warden and Myron Richardson – Treasurer) have agreed to continue their positions for next year and Peggy Andrews has agreed to be Church Registrar. 2020 Convention delegates are currently being recruited.

6. Report of the Junior Warden – Bob North:

a) Church Lane :

The paving is ongoing. The curb and sidewalks will probably be next.

b) Rectory Projects: Bob is continuing to arrange for the repairs.

c) Church Windows:

The frames on the small windows in the steeple above the front door are in need of repair. A proposal has been received from Willow Construction. Additional proposals will be sought.

d) Parking Lot Lights:

With the lack of sunny days, we still have issues. We've changed the performance response to movement mode. Normally when the lights go on they are at 20 percent power. Now if you move closer to a light, it will go up to 80 percent power. The light next to the school and the one at the top of the parking lot seem to have more problems. The light manufacturer is working with us on a possible remote situation that might help solve the problems for those two particular lights.

7. Report of Treasurer - Myron Richardson :

a) November Financials: Myron reviewed the Newsletter for November and pointed out that Pledges and Other Offerings are under budget by \$15,000 and expenses are over budget by \$10,000. Some of this delta is offset by the Deficit Reduction revenue. However the Cash Balance is negative \$24,792. Some of this difference will likely be reduced by the typically higher gift level in December. In addition, several very generous parishioners have expressed their intent to contribute a total of \$25,000 above and beyond typical gifts to eliminate the negative Cash Balance.

b) Pledges Update: The status of pledges for the 2020 budget was reviewed. Pledges are never finalized until early January, but current totals are greater than anticipated. However, some of the increase in pledges is from parishioners who normally give Non-pledged gifts so that the net increase in revenue is rather minor. The preliminary

budget considered in October showed a negative of \$289 and the current estimate has improved to positive \$673. It was agreed that Rev. Mary, Julia and Michele would all receive the 3.5% base salary increase as shown in the preliminary budget. The remainder of the budget will be finalized in January following 2019 year-end results, however only minor, if any, changes are expected.

- c) Building Construction Loan:** A Burn the Mortgage campaign was started in very early 2017 when the current 3-year loan was originated. (Addendum 3) The goal was to be able to pay the loan in full and not have to refinance in January 2020. Myron was very happy to report that the Burn the Mortgage campaign has been successful. The history of the mortgage and a list of over 200 families that contributed to paying the mortgage between 2009-2019 is attached (Addendum 2). Rev. Mary led the Vestry in a prayer of Thanksgiving for this success and it was agreed that there would be a public celebration of the achievement in early 2020.
- d) Operating Budget Cash Balance:** It is anticipated that the Operating Budget Cash Balance will be positive at 2019 year-end and the mortgage will be paid off in January 2020; both are very significant accomplishments.
- e) Rector Housing Allowance:** The Vestry voted unanimously to approve the 2020 Housing Allowance for Rev. Mary at the same amount as used in 2019.

8. Old Business:

- a) Task Force on Sustaining Our Legacy Update -- Peggy Andrews, Mark Freestate, Kent Young, Tracy Wilson :**

Progress is continuing. Two meetings have been scheduled for January. An interim report will be submitted to the Vestry after the first of the year.

- b) Townsend Letter:**

Mary+ shared a 1998 letter to the Bishop from Rev. Martin Townsend, a former priest at St. Paul's. In this retirement letter, A description of the Parish is remarkably similar to the current St. Paul's.

9. New Business:

a) Dates to remember:

Sunday, Dec. 22: The Greening of the Church and Pot Luck meal.

Sunday, Dec. 29: In Reverend Mary's absence, Bud Shand will be our priest.

Tues. Jan 28: Vestry Meeting at 7 pm. Dan Macari will offer his Spiritual Biography and Mark Freestate will do the opening prayer.

b) Friday, January 3: Ordination Anniversary Celebration. There will be an Open House at the Rectory, 6 to 8 pm. to celebrate Rev. Mary's 13th year of priesthood. Donations will be accepted for St. Martin's ministry.

c) Tues, Dec. 24: Practice for the Christmas Pageant is coming along well. We have a real baby for Baby Jesus.

Closing Prayer

Adjournment – 8:10 pm