

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE VESTRY
SAINT MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

February 19, 2020

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN

- Approved the Consent Agenda
- Approved the recommendations of the Mission & Outreach Committee for distribution of the Easter offering
- Approved the 2020 Budget
- Approved the 2019 Parochial Report to the Diocese

Prior to the regular meeting of the Vestry of Saint Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church on February 19, 2020, Eucharist was celebrated in the Bishop Moore Chapel.

Vestry members in attendance were Jay Lipscomb, Senior Warden; John Ellerman, Junior Warden; Blair Oden, Warden-at-Large; George Baldwin, Richard D'Antoni, Jane Greene, Louise Griffeth, Hallie Lawrence, Stacey Malcolmson, John McFarland, Jr., Steve McKenney, Kyle Moore, Anna Paccone, Darrel Rice, and Erica Sartain.

Ex-officio members in attendance included The Rev. Dr. Chris Girata, Rector; Kathy Kelley, Treasurer; Scott Wilson, Chancellor, and Ginger Brown, Clerk. Rob Baber was also in attendance.

Jay Lipscomb, Senior Warden, called the meeting to order. John Ellerman, Junior Warden, opened the meeting with prayer.

Prior to the meeting the Vestry received for its review the materials included in the Consent Agenda, which consisted of the January 15, 2020 Vestry minutes, the January 21, 2020 Special Telephonic Meeting minutes, the Mission and Outreach Report, the Jubilee Report, the Saint Michael Women's Exchange Report, and the Youth Report.

After a date correction was noted in the January 15 Vestry minutes, Blair Oden moved to approve the Consent Agenda, John Ellerman seconded the motion; and the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved by the Vestry.

Discussion of the Agenda

George Baldwin confirmed that the 2019 Audit is in process and expected to be completed in April.

John Ellerman requested that the HR Committee discussion be moved to Executive Session.

Jay Lipscomb presented the Mission and Outreach Committee recommendations for distribution of the Easter Offering. The M&O Committee recommendations, which focus on violence against women and human trafficking, include Project Moses, Thistle Farms and The Anglican Centre in Rome. George Baldwin moved for approval of the recommendations, and Darrel Rice seconded the motion. The Vestry unanimously approved the recommendations.

Richard D'Antoni next reviewed the results of the 2020 Stewardship campaign and spoke about the February Stewardship Committee meeting. With pledges coming in at just over the \$6,000,000 goal at the cutoff for budgeting purposes, he said that the Committee had discussed the challenges to go above \$6MM in pledges. To meet those challenges, he said there was a great need for better analytics and market segmentation of the parish and to make stewardship a year round effort. He noted that 90% of the 2020 pledges are from the 50 years and older demographic and that the need to engage the under 50 group needs to be broader than stewardship. Jay Lipscomb thanked the D'Antonis and Caroline Marak for their leadership in the stewardship campaign.

Financial Report

Kathy Kelley reported two funding requests approved in February by the Finance Committee: 1) a Choir request to pass the plate at concerts to help with expenses for choir trips and 2) a direct ask to 75th Anniversary Committee members to raise funds to cover expenses for the anniversary.

Kathy then reviewed the final financial report for the year ended December 31, 2019. Total operating revenues of \$6,363,526 were slightly under budget (1%) with current year pledges just over budget and prior year pledges and unpledged contributions slightly under budget. Expenses for the year were under budget by \$230, 530 leaving a net surplus of \$170,056. The net surplus is primarily attributable to improved expenses at the Saint Michael Episcopal School (SMES), which was able to add three new classrooms and adjust some employee expenses in 2019. Kathy reported that the Finance Committee was recommending that \$100,000 of the net surplus be allocated to the maintenance fund and \$57,000 allocated to the school transition fund leaving a final net surplus for 2019 of \$13,056.

Hallie Lawrence moved for approval of the final 2019 financial statement as presented and for approval of the Finance Committee's recommendation to allocate \$100,000 of the net surplus to the maintenance fund and \$57,000 to the school transition fund. George Baldwin seconded the motion, and the Vestry vote for approval was unanimous.

Kathy Kelley then reviewed the 2020 budget process, which began in November, and presented the final budget recommendations to the Vestry. She noted that the 2020 budget reflects SMAA's priorities for growth and includes three new hires: a Mission and Outreach Director, a Membership Director and a Sr. Graphics Designer. The budget process started with requests from each department, which were reviewed by the Rector, Vice Rector, Vestry Wardens, and the Finance Committee. Budgeted revenues are made up of pledges received as of 2/3/2020, estimates of unpledged contributions and plate offerings that are based on four year averages, and building income.

A discussion of the budget followed with Rob Baber reviewing budget items in detail with the Vestry. He noted that the final budget reflects a small shortfall after careful consideration of each expense category; however, current reserves are available, if needed. Specifically, it is recommended that possibly \$50,000 be taken from the Maintenance Fund and \$68,000 from the School Transition Fund if needed over the course of 2020. The point was made that these reserve funds were set up over five years ago specifically to address this type of situation and that healthy reserve balances will remain even after the proposed 2020 withdrawals are made.

Darrel Rice moved for approval of the 2020 budget as recommended by the Finance Committee and presented to the Vestry. Anna Paccone seconded the motion, and the 2020 budget was unanimously approved by the Vestry.

Senior Warden Report

Jay Lipscomb thanked the Vestry members for their participation in the special telephonic meeting called for a vote and approval of the Beck proposal that had been previously discussed in the January Vestry meeting. He also reported on the City Council meeting where the SMAA zoning proposal was unanimously approved.

Farmers Market

John Ellerman reported that the Farmers Market will open the 2020 season on April 25 with 23 sessions planned for the season. He said the license to operate is in place, and that the new chairman of the Farmers Market Committee is Hudson Weichsel. He also suggested having Tricia Stewart, the Farmers Market Director, come to a Vestry meeting to present the market's plans for 2020. In addition, he reported that Steve McKenney is the new Farmers Market liaison for the Vestry.

Rector's Report

The Rector gave a big thanks to all those who committed countless hours in the successful effort to get approval from the City Planning Commission and City Council for the rezoning of the SMAA property, noting special thanks to Jay Grogan who spent hundreds of hours on the project.

He reported that SMAA has five representatives this week at the Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Churches (CEEP) including the Vice Rector. He also announced that Ben Leal would be leaving as CEO of Jubilee Park & Community Center to form a new foundation; however, Ben will remain at Jubilee until a new CEO has been identified and transitioned to Jubilee.

The Rector spoke about the Campus Planning Group that would be working with the Beck Group to refine the church campus. They are expected to begin with a feasibility study that will include 75 – 100 households that have a history with SMAA and an engagement with the congregation.

He reminded everyone of the Spring Parish Meeting on Sunday, March 1 at 10:00 a. m.

The Rector then spoke about Ash Wednesday and Lent and the Daily Lenten Podcast Series planned for Lent. He also said that during Lent people will be asked to make ministry pledges in an effort to achieve a balance between dollar pledges and ministry pledges. He noted that the SMAA website has information on how to access and subscribe to the Lenten podcast series.

New Business

Jay Lipscomb presented the 2019 Parochial Report to the Diocese, which annually reports attendance and pledging data. Jay then made a motion to approve the report and submission of the report to the Diocese. George Baldwin seconded the motion, and the Vestry voted unanimously for approval.

George Baldwin gave a brief report of the recent SMAA mission trip to Tela, Honduras. A total of 18 parishioners with five new people including Rev. Mary Lessman provided Christian education to 540 kids, 300 pairs of eyeglasses to adults, and fluoride to 400 kids. In addition, they renovated bathrooms and fences and provided scholarships to eight students at Holy Spirit School in Tela.

Jay Lipscomb moved to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by Anna Paccone.

The Vestry then went into Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Ginger Brown
Clerk of the Vestry