

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE VESTRY

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Vestry of Saint Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church was called to order at 4:33 p.m. Wednesday, October 18, 2023, by Senior Warden Arnold Spencer, in the Theater. Before the meeting, the service of Holy Eucharist was held in the Bishop Moore Chapel with the Rev. Dr. Andrew Grosso as Celebrant.

Members in attendance were Arnold Spencer, Senior Warden; Holly Peña, Junior Warden; Kelly Reddell, Warden-at-Large; Dee Ann Anigian, Allison Bovard, Stuart Brown, Squeaky Connolly, Carol Goglia, LeAnne Langholz, Carol Roehrig, Jack Rubarth, Ginger Sager, Keller Webster, and Hudson Weichsel.

Ex officio members in attendance were the Rev. Dr. Chris Girata, Rector; the Rev. Ken Brannon, Vice-Rector; Janice Bywaters, Treasurer; Dianna Bowen, Chancellor; and Mary Louise Hopson, Clerk. Also in attendance were the Rev. Dr. Andrew Grosso, Rob Baber, Caroline Moore, Bhavnita Masih, Meredith Turner, Becky Odlozil, and Eric Conner.

LeAnne Langholz led the Vestry in prayer.

Arnold asked whether there were any requests to remove items from the Consent Agenda (September 20, 2023, minutes and Standing Committee, Affiliate, and Community Partner reports), and hearing none, moved that the Consent Agenda be adopted as written. Keller Webster seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous consent.

RECTOR'S REPORT

Chris stated that the construction contract will not be ready for review until after the Vestry retreat planned for this Saturday. Beck Construction is securing at least three competitive bids from subcontractors for each facet of the project, all of which will be included. The move to the Lomo Alto building will occur over the next few months, instead of the initial schedule of June/July 2024. Phase II will begin in August 2024, sooner than scheduled, to ready the Saint Michael Episcopal School (SMES) space before school starts.

All named meeting rooms, such as the Coke Room, will have designated locations in the newly renovated space. The Bookshop will not be open during construction, but parishioners will be able to visit the Saint Michael Woman's Exchange during that time. Purchases made there will help the Exchange support the church's mission and outreach activities.

Other changes that must occur because of construction will be clearly communicated to the Parish throughout this process, including a letter to be mailed November 1. Chris noted that the comments and feedback about the construction are very positive.

Chris also noted that the SMES prospective student/family tours are full with a waiting list.

Chris reviewed the agenda for the Vestry retreat scheduled for this Saturday, which will include a tour of the new LPC building and parking facility.

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Arnold reminded the Vestry that we will be receiving questions from church members about the construction. The Parish will be asked to make short-term sacrifices for long-term gains. Even with the disruption and inconvenience that will be caused by the construction, it is a very exciting time for the church and planned renovations will be a real gift to us as well as the generations coming after us.

Arnold also called attention to the Vestry calendar and pointed out key upcoming activities including the retreat and the Parish meeting which will include an election of its leaders. There will be a short Vestry meeting immediately following the Parish meeting to ratify the vote.

Arnold added that the process of transitioning to 2024 leadership has started, and 1st- and 2nd-year Vestry members are up for new positions. He asked that members of the 3rd-year Vestry class (outgoing members) be assigned to liaise with incoming Vestry members to share their experience and perspective. He also encouraged Vestry members to suggest ways to improve the effectiveness of the Wardens and the Vestry as a whole.

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Holly reminded the group that the church staff is working very hard during this time and encouraged everyone to show their appreciation.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Janice Bywaters, Treasurer, introduced Becky Odlozil, who will succeed her as Treasurer in January.

Janice reported on the Finance Committee meeting Tuesday, October 17, 2023. For the nine months ending September 30 our financials on a year-to-date basis continue to look good. Current-year pledge revenue was under budget; after adjustments that need to be made, current-year pledges will be \$26M under budget and unpledged contributions will be \$77M over budget. Year-to-date expense trends are consistent with prior months. We are \$75M under budget in total expenses. At year-to-date we are \$171M ahead of budget.

Arnold applauded Janice for her good work over the years.

ADVANCEMENT

Caroline Moore reported that the capital campaign total has surpassed \$55 million and there continues to be excitement about the plans. On the annual front, as of 10/13/23, we have pledges of \$1,280,532, with almost 49% of participating households having increased their pledge vs. prior year. Last year at this time, we reported \$1,760,727. This year's launch was

unique as it was done in tandem with the capital campaign, with brochures arriving in homes later than last year and no solicitation of leadership groups prior to launch.

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE (ARC)

Carol Roehrig reported that activities continue, and the work will soon shift to a focus on interiors. The ARC will continue to operate during the construction process.

NEW BUSINESS

Ken Brannon called attention to two handouts. One is an information sheet about two leadership nominations requiring Vestry approval. These nominations meet the qualifications required by charter. Ken recommended approval of the nominations, as set forth below:

Adult Formation Elizabeth Lang, Chair-Elect, 2023-2025

Nominating Kelly Reddell, Chair-Elect, 2023 (correction)

Arnold moved the approval of the two nominees as stated, Carol Goglia seconded, and after a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Ken also mentioned the second handout, an updated “snapshot” of the Standing Committees of the Vestry. Arnold praised Ken for his work on the Standing Committee lists.

Chris reported on the recent meeting of the Compass Rose Society, which was started by the Archbishop of Canterbury in the late 1990s. Reports included updates from Israel. SMAA is the fifth largest donor to the society. Chris added that SMAA is sending funds to the Middle East to support humanitarian efforts in the region brought about by the war.

There being no further business, Arnold moved to move the meeting to Executive Session at 5:37 p.m. and moved the meeting back into full session at 5:38 p.m. Arnold moved that the meeting be adjourned, Carol Goglia seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Louise C. Hopson

Clerk of the Vestry