

St. James' Vestry Meeting

November 2021

Minutes

Present: Maeve Vogan, Marilyn Hastings, Patty Earhart, Bill Kilgour, Drew Beck, Chuck Rogers,
Josh Ilgen, Phil Tatem, Peggy Spinozzi, Father Mike, Iva Ferrell, Marc Wezner

The Meeting opened with the Vestry Prayer at 7:30 pm

There were no e-votes this month

The Minutes from the October Vestry Meeting were approved as written

OLD BUSINESS

1. Signage and Security Cameras- Progress has been made on signs for Outreach House. Barbara Bateman has drafted a sign to announce that OH is only accepting Food and Clothing, no toys and household items. She will work with Lisa regarding font and color for consistency.
2. Globus Reception- Patty has reached out to Globus regarding a date for the reception but they have not gotten back to us about a firm date.
3. Alatha V. Sherrod Memorial Balcony Update- Boards in the balcony have been pulled up, beams are sound. Also Fr. Mike would like to have a cap put on the parapet wall outside to prevent further weathering- will get an estimate. After that project has been completed, the balcony wall can be repaired and the window in the front wall can be replaced.

NEW BUSINESS

1. The old oil tank in the History Center needs to be removed (the building was switched to gas heat a few years ago). Steve Folk pumped out the oil inside it and agreed to remove the tank for \$800 in the next few days. This is \$400 less than another estimate that we received.
2. New parking Lot- nothing new
3. Landscaping-nothing new
4. Boy Scout Food Drive- this Saturday, Nov. 20th. Many volunteers needed to sort food
5. Outreach House Mission- OH Advisory Board met and agreed to focus on Food and Clothing only; this will start in January
6. Communication- Drew noted that as church activities return to normal, we need to include Lisa on all communications so she can assure continuity and that the proper templates are used. Announcements have not been included in the church bulletin since the pandemic to save paper. Instead, they are printed in Happenings and Fr. Mike announces them in church.
7. Pledges are due this Sunday. Some are still due from Vestry members
8. Replacement Vestry Member- We agreed to wait until the new year to find a new person to fill the vestry opening

COMMISSION AREA REPORTS

1. Building and Grounds- Marc reported that he was told a tree had fallen in the cemetery- will check on this. The parking lot is very dark although there are flood lights on the building. Fr. Mike will ask the sexton to check if they are on a timer or if bulb needs to be replaced.
2. Outreach- 104 families served last week, 190 mittens made for Mitten Tree. A check for \$15K from Montco Strong has been received. Several food drives are happening soon. Report was approved.
3. Education- There were 38 children in Sunday School. A Dinner Church was held although there was no one from outside churches possibly due to interference from the Eagles game. Fr. Mike is grateful for the great support from the parents. Also, the choir and worship leaders will order new robes because their current robes are very old. Report was approved.
4. Member Ministry- A New Members Breakfast will be held on Sunday. We gained 22 new adults in 2022. Bill said he is thinking of working with realtors in the area to give a gift basket to new residents to let them know about St. James'
5. Parish Life- Iva noted that Coffee Hour has resumed
6. Rector- no report

BUDGET

1. A motion passed to send \$100 every year to Sewanee University in Fr. Mike's name
2. Phil reviewed the 2021 Budget projected and actual expenditures
3. We are still in deficit spending
4. He stated that the inflow and outflow of money to Outreach House distorts our monthly numbers. He will speak to the accountant about this.
5. Pledges for this year were slightly better than last year however new families do not necessarily pledge right away.
6. There was discussion about how to follow up with new members; phone call vs. visit vs. choice of the 2
7. Motion was made and report was accepted.

RAISES/SALARIES

1. Reviewed salaries and fixed costs for Fr. Mike, Lisa Reinhart, Lauren Exley, Steve the Sexton.
The Vestry approved a 1% increase for Fr. Mike and 3% increase for Lisa and Lauren.
Vacations are 3 weeks for Lauren, 4 weeks for Lisa, 3 weeks for Fr. Mike (in addition to sabbatical). Steve continues to receive \$15/hour for 12 hours work per week.
2. There was brief discussion of the nursery staff. We have been unable to find anyone to take the job for Sunday nursery. The cost of a service would be approximately \$10 K per year. The Vestry was unwilling to make this expenditure.

The meeting was adjourned with a prayer at 9:20pm

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Schiavo Spinozzi

