

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

Barrington, Illinois

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting of Monday, October 18, 2021

7:00 p.m. – Virtual Meeting

Present (Via Zoom): The Rev. Jesse Perkins (Rector), Ann Kimes (Senior Warden-2022), John Garcia (Junior Warden-2022), Gwynne Johnston (2022), Cam Sells (2022), Lindsay Taylor (2022), Charley Wickman (2022), Kathi Frelk (2023), Ric Lindeen (2023), David Rauschenberg (2023), Carol Berman (2024), Melissa Buckley (2024), Greg Mears (2024), Doug Torbeck (2024), John Davis (Treasurer), Craig Anderson (Clerk)

Absent: Gwen Weibel (2023)

1. Call to Order

There being a quorum present, Ann Kimes called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Opening Prayer

Fr. Perkins offered the opening prayer.

3. Approval of Agenda

Lindsay Taylor moved, and Melissa Buckley seconded, that the agenda be approved as presented. Upon a voice vote: All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

4. Approval of Minutes

Kathi Frelk moved, and Lindsay Taylor seconded, that the minutes of the September 20, 2021, meeting of the Vestry be approved as presented. Upon a voice vote: All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

5. Financial Report

John Davis advised that there has been a catch-up in pledge payments. Also, John noted that St. Michael's received the proceeds from the sale of the property at 128 W. Hillside Avenue, the parish's fiscal position is okay at present, and the application for forgiveness of the second Paycheck Protection Program loan has been submitted. In response to questions from Gwynne Johnston, John indicated that the additional concrete work is for curb improvements to facilitate snow removal and Miscellaneous Income includes forgiveness of the first Paycheck Protection Program loan.

Gwynne Johnston moved, and David Rauschenberg seconded, that the September 2021 Financial Statements be approved as presented. Upon a voice vote: All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

6. New Business

Vestry Members

Ann Kimes reviewed her request for the vestry to consider a reduction in the number of vestry members from 12 to a minimum of 9, using a phased approach over the next 3 years. Starting in 2022, the number of vestry members would be reduced to 11, in 2023 the number would be reduced to 10, and in 2024 the

number would be reduced to 9. The parish bylaws allow for a reduction in the minimum number of members to 9. In addition to the 12 members, the current composition of the vestry also includes 2 wardens and the rector. This suggested change is based on the current size and needs of the parish and allow leadership talent to serve St. Michael's in other capacities.

Comments, ideas, and suggestions offered during vestry discussion included need for the vestry to be flexible; purpose of the vestry and utilization of its members; have each member of the vestry have a particular focus or assignment, which might change every 1 or 2 years; align activities with actual goals; establish priorities; think about what we want to do and then determine number of vestry members needed; and tactics need to support strategies. It was suggested that a vestry retreat might be helpful for further review and discussion.

Further review of this item was tabled to allow additional time to think about goals and a process for moving forward.

Stewardship

Lindsay Taylor provided an update on this year's stewardship initiative, including Stewardship Sunday activities. Approximately 120 to 150 persons are expected for lunch.

The importance of the spiritual aspect of giving and giving back to God were noted during discussion.

7. Old Business

Charging Stations, Lighting

Fr. Perkins commented on the idea of installation of a parking space charging station for electric vehicles at St. Michael's, along with installation of a plaque indicating our parish's use of solar power. Fr. Perkins noted the relationship of having a charging station to St. Michael's concern for good environmental stewardship and to the curb appeal and attractiveness of St. Michael's as a potential parish home.

Gwynne Johnston and Fr. Perkins are following up on this item.

Rectory Kitchen/Bathrooms Update

Fr. Perkins provided an update on the rectory kitchen and bathrooms improvement projects, including bids received.

Following discussion, Gwynne Johnston moved, and David Rauschenberg seconded, that the improvement of the two rectory bathrooms move forward at a cost not to exceed \$18,000.

Prior to a vote on this item, Melissa Buckley moved, and Greg Mears seconded, that proceeds from the sale of the 128 W. Hillside Avenue property be used to cover the cost of improvement of the two rectory bathrooms. Upon a voice vote: All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

Upon a voice vote on the original motion and second: All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

8. Committee Reports

Building and Grounds Committee

No report

Outreach Committee

Melissa Buckley reported that work on Christmas baskets and reverse Advent calendars is underway. Gwynne Johnston noted that the Outreach Committee will be meeting to review and consider fund distribution recommendations.

Little Angels Christian Preschool

Fr. Perkins advised that there are currently 90 students enrolled in the preschool.

Youth Group

Ric Lindeen reported on current activities, including initiation of Sunday evening meetings for LIFT and the start of the next confirmation process.

9. Rector's Report

Fr. Perkins provided a review of recent and upcoming activities and events at St. Michael's, including a Kick-Off Sunday, recent funerals, the Blessing of the Animals, this year's stewardship initiative, All Saints Sunday and All Souls Requiem, Lessons & Carols, and streaming of Sunday services. Items for review and consideration include accessibility in the nave, the possibility of coffee hour indoors when needed, and the concept of establishing a Permanent Fund to address long-term fiscal sustainability of St. Michael's.

10. Senior Warden's Report

Ann Kimes noted the passing of Fr. Mark McIntosh.

11. Closing Prayer

The closing prayer was offered by Fr. Perkins.

12. Motion to Adjourn

Greg Mears moved, and David Rauschenberg seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. Upon a voice vote: All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Craig G. Anderson

Craig G. Anderson, Clerk