

St. Anne's Parish
Vestry Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 9, 2019

Clergy and Vestry Members Present

Rev. Tim Mulder
Linda Adamson
Betty Creighton
Carrie Dana-Evans
Ginger DeLuca
Mark Grimes
Katherine Hilton
Jason Houser
David Huggins
Sharon McElfish
Sarah Morris
Cardie Templeton
Susan Thaxton

Vestry Members Not-Present

Patrick Carlson
Al Collins
Tripp Trippitelli

Non-Vestry and Others Present

Howard Buskirk, clerk

Opening Prayer and Interim Rector Report

Mark opened the meeting at 7:02 p.m. followed by a prayer offered by Tim+.

Tim+ said Bishop Eugene Sutton was scheduled to visit the Parish on May 5 and would celebrate and preach at the 8 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. services. There will be no 11 a.m. service, but Bishop Eugene would speak at the Sunday Forum instead.

Tim+ and the Revs. Dion Thompson and Jess Sexton were scheduled to meet with Bishop Eugene April 10. Tim+ asked members of the Vestry for input on three questions they had to discuss at the meeting.

Question one is "What are you energized by in the life of your congregation?"

Mark said bringing in a new rector.

Ginger said the enthusiasm and warmth of the congregation, the sermons and the committees on which she serves.

Betty said the services and the music.

Dave highlighted the community relationships and Jason the celebration of major holidays.

Cardie said she loves the singing and all the good voices of the congregation

Susan discussed the Parish's respect for the tradition of the liturgy

Carrie mentioned the questions of the children in the Sycamore Tree

Sharon said the courage to make changes.

The second question on which the Bishop is seeking input is "What things are concerning about the life of the church?"

Dave mentioned the decline in attendance and pledges.

Betty said the sound system is an "absolute disaster" and the narthex is too small.

Cardie mentioned the lack of racial diversity in the congregation and Susan the lack of attendance in youth programs.

Linda said there are still people who feel that there are insiders and outsiders at our church.

Sarah said there is too much noise at the back of the church during services.

The third question the Bishop poses is: "How would Annapolis be different without St. Anne's?"

Sharon mentioned the outreach and the open door that wouldn't be there anymore.

Betty highlighted the importance of the church as a location for funerals and other public ceremonies.

Jr. Warden's Report

Cardie offered the Jr. Warden's report, seeking approval for spending on the cemetery wall.

Ginger moved that the Vestry approve up to \$29,000 (\$26,000 plus contingency) to repair the cemetery wall, to be funded from insurance proceeds (approximately \$17,000) and the Emily Peake bequest. The motion passed unanimously.

Audio system

Jason made a presentation on the months-long process find a firm and identify the work that must be done to update the church's sound system, which was installed in 2013. Jason said the Parish worked with seven different potential vendors, with proposals ranging from \$13,000 to \$74,000.

The Vestry discussed several technical questions, including the parts of the previous system that aren't working, the acoustics in our sanctuary and the sound of the organ.

Carrie made a motion that the Vestry approve Spira AVL to complete the audio upgrades in the Church and approve spending up-to \$24,090 (\$21,900 + 10% contingency) from the Capital Fund. The motion was approved on a unanimous vote.

Treasurer's and Parochial reports

Susan presented the Treasurer's Report. Giving is up \$44,000 over the year-earlier period and the Parish is 29 percent of the way toward its pledge goal, she said. Seventy-four percent of giving comes through checks, just nine percent online, she said. Quarterly statements are being sent to everyone who pledges, she said. Susan plans to meet with the Auditor May 8.

Susan also presented the Parochial Report, which is being updated to more accurately reflect the number of members of the Parish. Cardie moved that the Parochial Report be approved as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Rector Contract

A Letter of Agreement was signed on March 18, 2019 making the Rev. Manoj Mathew Zacharia the rector of St Anne's Parish, effective August 1, 2019. This agreement was signed by the priest, the senior warden, the canon for transitions, and the bishop of Maryland.

AED

Cardie moved that the Vestry approve spending \$1,300 from the Parish Health fund to purchase two new automated external defibrillator units. The motion was approved unanimously.

Transition Committee

Linda, Betty, Sarah and Ginger agreed to serve on a Transition Committee. Other members are being recruited from the Search and Profile committees. The committee will work with the Vestry on a farewell reception for Tim+ and assist Manoj+ as he moved his family to the Annapolis area.

PIMIG Budget

Linda updated the Vestry on the latest developments in the Partners in Mission in Guatemala program. Linda plans a trip to Guatemala to address financial issues in the program.

Ginger moved that the Vestry approve the PIMIG budget as presented, which includes expenses of up to \$42,217 -- which are funded by \$22,687 from the Sally Lewis Fund (as previously approved by Vestry), \$2,669 rolled forward from last years income, and additional donations to be raised by PIMIG in 2019. The motion was approved on a unanimous vote.

Approval of April Minutes

Cardie moved that the Vestry waive the reading of the April minutes and approve them as written. The motion was approved on a unanimous vote.

Closing

Betty offered the closing prayer and Mark adjourned the meeting at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Howard Buskirk
Clerk of Vestry