

St. Monica's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting Minutes for April 19, 2018

Present: Fr. Eric Cooter, Rector; Tom Cote, Junior Warden (on phone conference); Doug Ball, Carol Hedman, Michael Kennedy, Ligia Rodriguez, Janet Ross, Betsy Smith.

Absent: Matt Devlin, Jesus Prado, Stuart Wisnom.

Fr. Eric called the meeting to order with his leading us in Early Evening Prayer from the Prayer Book.

Minutes

- Janet moved, Michael seconded a motion to approve the Vestry minutes of March 15, 2018; motion passed.

Endowment Report to Vestry

- Steve Borchers, Tom Gibson, and Bill Richards have created a plaque to honor individuals in the Legacy Society, the first Endowment group consisting of 14 members (22 with wives.) This sharp-looking plaque will be positioned in the church entry to the right of the front door. Also, a very handsome flyer has been created to educate the congregations about the endowment and why they should be involved. This flyer will be inserted into the regular bulletin on the first Sunday of each quarter of the church year, and a larger version will be put on an easel in the parish hall. Folks can go online for further information or speak with one of the committee members present. This presentation will go in the Church News and the plaque dedicated near St. Monica's Day. Two other groups within the Endowment Committee consists of the Birthday Club and Friends of the Endowment (since 2014.) The Vestry gave the committee a hearty applause for all of their hard work.

Radical Welcoming Report to Vestry

- Sarah Meader is concerned with whether the full range of new people are being greeted (or not) at the 5:00 PM Sat. service and the 9:30 AM Sunday morning service. She learned about the tools and resources needed for a program like this from a woman in Texas. Greeters should try to get as much information as possible from newcomers and then let the ushers know that these are new folks to the church. They could perhaps be seated with an "old timer" and then have that person introduce them to Fr. Eric after the service. And then take the newcomers to either wine&cheese or coffee hour. Sarah said that we now have a bulletin for newcomers and greeters bags (a renewal of an old custom at St. Monica's.) Vestry was very pleased with this new development for integrating new folks.

Rector's Report (as file)

Senior Warden's Report (absent excused)

Junior Warden's Report

- The church is still in a holding pattern regarding bringing the gas line to St. Monica's from Collier Blvd. and Immokalee Rd. Once that's done, the line can be brought into the building. Also, Tom said that 40 bags of bark mulch will be delivered to the church, and volunteers can spread the it once Tom returns.

Treasurer's Report

- After Janet spoke briefly on the reports for January and February 2018, Doug moved, Ligia seconded a motion to accept the treasurer's reports; motion passed.

Bulletin Board for Vestry Business

- Fr. Eric thinks that it is more transparent for the congregation to have a bulletin board for hard copy postings of approved Vestry minutes and accepted treasurer's reports. Tom and Michael will work together to see that this happens for the hallway wall outside and across from the church office. Feb. and March reports are ready to be posted; also, Betsy will be given copy to put on the internet.

Latino Taskforce Report

- Carol and Ligia announced that Jesus will lead a Bible study and provide for a backup. Also, the taskforce can team up with Café of Life event which is in the initial planning stages, aiming for June. Also, there was discussion of doing Godly Play at the Café of Life or at the Guadalupe Center. It's imperative to get more people involved.

Service (local Mission) –New Ministry

- Ligia who chairs this commission is contacting everyone in this commission about future activities such as a job fair; get involved with Safe Place for Children (a program that is more informal structurally than foster care and can precede the need for foster care) so that parents of children can get established with a new job or get re-established in society after personal loss of a job, housing, addiction, etc. This would be an excellent endeavor for a discussion at coffee hour after church. Doug moved, Michael seconded the motion to go ahead with these two new projects; motion passed.

Fr. Eric announced that he, Matt, Tom, and Doug will be attending the **May 5, 2018 Diocesan Vestry Retreat** at Day Spring.

Rental Policy Revision Update

- Janet announced that Jill Ducatman will research what people charge for events that could be done in parish halls or places of like size such as wedding receptions, etc. At the moment, it appears that this space would be in the rental ballpark of \$1,500. Janet will make a recommendation once the data is in.

Resolutions

- Janet moved, Tom seconded the motion that a Finance Committee be established.
- Janet moved, Michael seconded the motion that savings and operating accounts be consolidated (physically) using Fund Accounting.
- Janet moved, Michael seconded the motion that Tom's name be put back as of the approved check signers on the operating account.
- Janet moved, Doug seconded the motion that a new mission needs to be found for a Blue Cup Project since the kitchen is paid for and almost done. Tom will present a couple of ideas at the next Vestry meeting.
- Fr. Eric commented that there needs to be research on how to fill a vestry position which becomes vacant between annual meetings (no diocesan or national rule on the subject); should the next highest count person from the last annual meeting be appointed by the Vestry or should the Vestry vote on an entirely new person to come on the Vestry.
- Fr. Eric decided that discussion of a rental policy should be deferred to a later time.

All of the above resolutions that were in the form of a motion were approved by the Vestry.

Carol moved, Janet seconded the motion to adjourn; motion passed. We ended with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug Ball". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Doug Ball, Secretary of Vestry