

St. Monica's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting Minutes for June 21, 2018

Present: The Rev. Eric S. Cooter, Rector; Tom Cote, Junior Warden (on phone conference); Janet Ross, Treasurer; Doug Ball, Clerk of Vestry; Carol Hedman; Michael Kennedy; Ligia Rodriguez; Betsy Smith.

Absent: Matt Devlin, Senior Warden; Stuart Wisnom. (excused)

Fr. Eric called the meeting to order and started us off with prayer, and the Vestry read though the Vestry Covenant for the beginning of our deliberations.

Reports and Information

- Rector's Report—as filed; Fr. Eric discussed one matter of the church purchase of a set of new white vestments which would be appropriate for use on Easter, Christmas, baptisms, weddings, funerals, and feast days not moved from Sunday worship. The church does not currently have a complete set. He mentioned that church members and he are contributing to the purchase. The junior warden, Michael and Doug agreed that the rector should not be contributing to the purchase of vestments even if he is doing it from the kindness of his heart. Thus, Tom, Michael, and Doug will also contribute to the cost of the purchase. The price will around \$1,133.00.
- There is no report from the senior warden.
- The junior warden gave an oral report which emphasized the new plantings around the church grounds especially the butterfly garden. In response, vestry members expressed gratitude for the lovely improvements. Tom also mentioned that the new gas line for the kitchen hook-up would be installed this coming week.
- The Treasurer introduced the new book keeper by name, Stacy Hersha, who as an employee reports to the rector, will be working closely with Janet. The financials for May 2018 have been postponed to a later date for vestry perusal. *(An electronic vote was taken by the vestry on July 8, 2019, after the vestry had time to study the up-to-date financial reports. The motion passed by seven yes to one no with no response from one vestry member. A review of June/July financials will take place at the July meeting.)*

- Fr. Eric and Doug gave a quick report on the first Stewardship Commission meeting on Tuesday, June 19th. A tentative strategy with dates leading up to the Sunday nearest All Saints Day has been drafted. A report has gone out to all vestry members.
- Fr. Eric from now on will send members of the vestry a request for any agenda items a week ahead of the vestry meeting.

Discussions

- Fr. Eric brought up the matter of having a Pumpkin Patch event for 2018. Several vestry members offered opinions about the difficulties of implementing the Pumpkin Patch within the current time parameters. It was mentioned that this event does bring positive public relations and exposure to the church in the community. A concern was expressed that people stop in to take pictures of their kids with the pumpkins and leave without buying any. Tom thinks we need a different approach because it is difficult to get volunteers for an entire month; perhaps, the time-period should be shortened to two or two and ½ weeks as advised by the 2017 coordinator. And the big question is: who will lead the event. Betsy and Carol believe that we need a new fundraiser if we do end the Pumpkin Patch event. Tom agreed that other fundraisers should be considered.

Fr. Eric summarized the discussion: a) are we doing it? b) we need a vestry liaison. c) who will be the team leaders? d) bring the event time down to 2 or 2 and ½ weeks. e) where does the money go that is raised? So that we can reflect on all this, Fr. Eric will place this topic on the July vestry agenda again for discussion.

- Ligia suggested that as a community event a “trunk or treat” happening for Halloween could be planned.
- Fr. Eric discussed the new Bulletin Style Guide for the church as a FYI.
- Since the church is getting new white vestments, we need to make disposition of the old vestments used on holy days mentioned above. Several suggestions were offered and will be discussed at the next meeting.

Resolutions

- Vestry member Jesus Prado has resigned within the last month due to family issues and the need to concentrate on family matters. In accordance with vestry policy for replacing a vacant seat on the vestry, Tom moved, Michael seconded a motion to nominate Bill Chairs to fill Jesus Prado's unexpired term. Motion passed, and Bill Chairs was elected.
- Jill Ducatman, Parish Life Coordinator, has moved two fundraising resolutions from the Women of St. Monica's, Heidi Varsames, President. The first motion is that the women will hold a Holiday Luncheon fundraiser on Saturday, Dec. 1, 2018, in the parish hall. Doug seconded her motion, and the resolution passed. The second motion Jill moved was that the women operate a coffee bar on primary voting day, Aug. 28th and election day, Nov. 6th on the east porch outside the admin. offices of the parish hall. Tom seconded the motion, and the resolution passed.
- The Treasurer moved, Doug seconded that the building bank account be consolidated into the Capital Reserve bank account, thus closing out the building account. Motion passed.
- The Treasurer moved, Tom seconded the motion that the 2018 Easter offering be moved to the Operating Account. The current amount is \$1,870. Motion passed.
- As outlined in the Bylaws, the rector appoints all committees; therefore, Fr. Eric moved, Janet seconded the motion that the following parishioners be accepted as members of the new Finance Committee for St. Monica's: Ron Benson, Bill Chairs, Donna Cote, Bob Rossomondo, along with Janet Ross, Treasurer, and the Rev. Eric Cooter, ex officio. Motion passed.
- The Treasurer moved, Ligia seconded the motion to accept from our E-Giving affiliate a gift equal to \$1,200.00 for some issues which apparently affected us, the gift amounting to waiving the security fee for one year or free text giving for one year. Motion passed.

- Since there were no more items for discussion, Tom moved, Janet seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting; motion passed.

Fr. Eric closed our gathering with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Ball, Clerk of Vestry