

St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
December Vestry Minutes  
Wednesday, December 12, 2018  
7:00 p.m.

**Present:** Fr. Patrick Funston, Joe Barbercheck, David Littrell, Tom Snyder, Michael Donnelly, Yvonne Amanor-Boadu, Marian Fuller, Candie White, Rebecca Burton (acting clerk).

**Absent:** Katie Dempsey, Ann Pearce (clerk)

Father Patrick called the meeting to order with a gathering prayer.

**Formation:** "A Lesson on Looking" (Video- Amy Herman, TED Talks) dealt with steering conversations about what we miss everyday by not seeing what is not apparent. This led to a discussion on how we can adopt this thinking in relation to the church and how we can encourage parishioners to participate in activities offered by the church.

The November minutes were then passed around. David moved to accept the minutes; Joe seconded.

**Rector's Report** - Fr. Patrick shared his monthly Rector's Report.

**Senior Warden** - David reported on his role as Senior Warden and Verger. He informed us that he reformatted the Sung Compline Book with larger font and red rubrics. We hope to see these used for Lent.

**Junior Warden** – Tom reported that:

- New water fountain was finally set up and functioning for use, special thank you to Eric and Connie Cattell for their donation.
- Every Encore Shop basement light was tested and in good working order.
- The Historic sign was set up.
- The Encore Shop heater is functioning properly.
- He is still working with the Interior designer on scheduling the various tasks to proceed with the capital campaign renovations.

**Upcoming calendar:**

The Calendar of Events is available on the St. Paul's website which include the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. This year, the Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

**Discussion:**

1. **Rector Housing Allowance and Stipend** – The following resolution was duly adopted by the vestry of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Manhattan, Kansas at a regularly scheduled meeting held on December 12, 2018, a quorum being present:

Whereas, Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code permits a minister of the gospel to exclude from gross income a church-designated allowance paid to him as part of his compensation to the extent used by him for actual expenses in owning or renting a home; and

Whereas, Aidan Patrick Funston is compensated by St. Paul's exclusively for services as a minister of the gospel; and

Whereas, St. Paul's does not provide Fr. Funston with a rectory, therefore, it is hereby

Resolved, that, of the total compensation paid to Fr. Funston for calendar year 2019, \$25,000 is hereby designated to be a housing allowance; and it is further

Resolved that the designation of \$25,000 as a housing allowance shall apply to calendar year 2019 and all future years unless otherwise provided.

**2. Dependent Care Assistance program** – The vestry adopted a DCAP for full-time employees on November 26<sup>th</sup> via email. The vestry ratified that adoption at this evening's meeting. Candie moved to ratify the adoption of the DCAP: Michael seconded it. All approved. Fr. Patrick and David Littrell will sign the necessary documents.

**3. Welcoming Steering Committee Report** – Yvonne indicated that:

- The committee focused on the group that responded to the survey.
- There were groups that took personal responsibility.
- The vestry realize that the Welcoming Statement testing was about it being a present and future reality.
- Language was incorporated that is aspirational by adopting the slogan, "Loving Hearts, Curious Minds and Open Doors".

#### **Next Steps for the Welcoming Committee -**

1. Questions about outreach to reconnect with old members will be part of the 2019 conversation.
2. Following up with members who visited but chose not to stay.
3. Having a class on Ways to welcome people.
4. Finally, the committee asked for recommendations from the vestry.

The Vestry approved of Welcoming Committee's recommendations including the following welcoming statement with a consensus after Michael moved to support them which was seconded by Joe.

*Loving hearts...*

*We believe Jesus has called us to love God with all our hearts and to love our neighbor. In that call, we find our neighbor in people from all walks of life, all economic statuses, all genders, all sexualities, all abilities, all ethnicities and races. We are all children of God, made in the image of God: neighbors.*

*Curious minds...*

*We wish to know how to be better neighbors to all people and to live together in God's present kingdom. We are ready to learn and grow by listening to the stories of those we may have hurt,*

*offended, or ignored, affirming the value in diversity of thought, culture, and experience. We learn together how we can show the light of God's love. We do not assume that we already know the needs of those we welcome here.*

*Open doors...*

*We aim to practice Christ's example of hospitality by welcoming every person who comes to St. Paul's. We hope to welcome all who desire to better know and worship God, all who need comfort and fellowship, and all who seek to find their place.*

*All are welcome.*

*You are welcome.*

Fr. Patrick thanked Yvonne and the vestry who participated in one-on-one conversations during the investigative process.

**Finance Reports** – Joe and Fr. Patrick redesigned the Month-End Treasurer's report:

- To be in line with the parochial reports.
- To make the financial reports simpler to read as well as prioritize Income & Expenses.
- A better fit for the different categories.
- The New Statement will include information about restricted fund as well as a Balance Sheet.

Joe thanked the congregation and David Littrell for his efforts with the 2019 Annual Giving campaign.

**2019 Budget Presentation:** Joe and Fr. Patrick presented the Finance Committee recommendation for the 2019 budget. Fr. Patrick indicated that the budget will be adopted at this vestry meeting, but won't be fully formalized until the year-end happens. The vestry should expect additions to the budget at the January meeting. After discussion and questions, including discussion time with Fr. Patrick and Rebecca out of the room, a few adjustments were made.

Mary Sier moved to accept the new budget with Tom Snyder seconding it. The motion passed unanimously. The vestry will revisit and finalize the budget in January 2019.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m. after Compline.