

St Paul's Episcopal Church (Upstairs Classroom)
May Vestry Meeting (There was no business meeting in April)
Tuesday, May 21, 2019
7:05 p.m.

Present: Father Patrick, Deb Lamb, Mary Vanier, Phil Ryan, Landon Leiker, Marian Fuller, Katie Dempsey, Yvonne Amanor-Boadu and acting clerk Rebecca Burton

Absent: Joe Barbercheck, Candie White and Betsey Barrett

Father Patrick opened the meeting with a Gathering Worship with a daily devotional for individuals and families from the Book of Common Prayer. After opening worship, the Vestry did Dwelling on the Word with the Luke 10.1-12 text.

What sticks out?

What surprised you?

Which would you ask a biblical scholar about the passage?

Next the March vestry meeting minutes were handed out; a motion was made by Mary Vanier to accept as is, seconded by Yvonne, and was unanimously approved.

Then the group broke into the Subcommittees of **Administration** (Mary Vanier & Phil Ryan, accompanied by Father Patrick), **Property** (Landon Leiker, Katie Dempsey and accompanied by Rebecca Burton) and **Mission** (Marian Fuller, Yvonne Amanor-Boadu and accompanied by Deb Lamb). Fr. Patrick reminded the vestry that the goal of the Subcommittee restructure is to divide and conquer by having each group discuss and decide on a solution for issues pertaining to each area. This should eliminate duplicate discussions thus creating an opportunity to focus on bigger issues of the church. Each group was given a sheet to record notes from which they would report back verbally to the vestry and then hand the written notes to the secretary/clerk to be incorporated into the Minutes document. At the end of the verbal report, the Chair of the Vestry meeting would ask for a motion to accept/reject the Subcommittee's report. Once seconded the matter would be voted on. Acceptance of the report agrees with **all ACTIONS taken** by Subcommittees; Rejection of the report sends **all ACTIONS back** to the Subcommittee.

The Administrative Subcommittee. The financial statement was passed out. Phil Ryan reported for the group. The **ACTION** taken by the group was to adopt the Treasurer's Report. The subcommittee also forwarded a question on to the finance committee to consider budgeting for the percentage of pledges anticipated to be received rather than a 100% plan. The **NEW** item discussed was the month-end checklist that was prepared by the Finance Committee, which the group decided to accept as is. There was discussion as to whether the report was considered a motion, which Father informed the group that it was as such. Deb asked for a second. It passed unanimously.

The Property Subcommittee. Landon Leiker shared the Property report. **ACTION:** The subcommittee reviewed and discussed the distribution of several furniture items which are either displaced or unnecessary after construction.

1. The two ornate chairs that St Paul's has owned for decades. One member thought that the church should keep it because of its historical value. The other member felt that it should be donated to another church or sold. This will be **reviewed** further at a future meeting.
2. The safe. Further information is needed to make a decision about it. It will be **reviewed** at a future meeting.
3. The black office chairs that the vestry has been using. Thoughts were floated around about offering it to teachers or other professionals. This was tabled as well for **review** at a future meeting.
4. Brown leather sofa that was downstairs. It was **moved** to leave it in the basement so that it could be set up around a conversational gathering space.
5. The **NEW** items were the mauve/pink choir chairs were up for discussion. It was **moved** that the church would continue to advertise them in the bulletin for sale, until Pentecost and then remove them from the church. Fr. Patrick reported that he had sold four of the chairs and advertised them on the Diocesan Clergy Facebook group, but gotten no feedback.

It was seconded by Deb to accept the report. It passed unanimously.

The Mission Subcommittee. Yvonne Amanor-Boadu reported for the group. The **NEW** item discussed was the Fall Kick-off/Ministry Fair with the theme, "St. Paul's in the Community?" It was discussed that the event should be held after each service on the lawn/sidewalks; it was suggested that Deacon Sandy be brought in on the conversation; re-inviting others; setting up information tables for What's going on at St. Paul's this year; having a contest to see who could visit the most tables. The Subcommittee thought that having the Fall Kick-Off on August 25, 2019 would make the most sense, even though Fr. Patrick will be away. Phil Ryan seconded this and it was accepted unanimously.

RECTORS REPORT

Father Patrick provided an oral report.

1. Fr. Patrick will be at "Biking Across Kansas" from June 7- June 15. Diocesan Canon Pastor George Wiley will be presiding over the June 9th Sunday services.
2. Fr. Patrick is anticipating his continuing education classes at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN from June 24- June 27. This will be the coursework for an Executive Certificate in Religious Fundraising. The course includes a final project that will benefit the church. No supply clergy will be needed for the Sunday services. This education is located at Luther Seminary, but is organized and taught by the Lilly Family School of Philanthropy at Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis.
3. The Funstons will be in Oklahoma City from July 3 – July 6. No supply clergy needed for the Sunday services.

MISSION FOCUS

Continuing the discussion on the culture, mission and vision of St. Paul's, Manhattan begun at the vestry retreat on April 27th, the Vestry spent the bulk of the meeting (about an hour) in discussion of the book, "***Joining God, Remaking the Church, Changing the World***" by Alan J.

Roxburgh. The group discussed the importance of starting the process with listening, then praying, listening to God and re-thinking our ways. We can't predict the outcome and that it takes a while sometimes a year to eighteen months. It is important that the Vestry members get to know each other. One member shared that we need to experiment different methods and to not let the fear of failure stop us but to keep moving on. Making uncomplicated bullets and lists might work for some.

Some of the roadblocks to the thinking were also discussed. We need to start experimenting with the congregation first to see if it works. Father ended the discussion asking the vestry to brainstorm ways that the Missional focus on Roxburgh's book might have budget implications for 2020 that might be communicated during the 2019 annual giving campaign. Fr. Patrick thanked everyone for a lively discussion.

The next vestry meeting was scheduled for June 18th. The meeting came to close with closing prayers at 9:00 p.m.