



ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Vestry Meeting Minutes

Date:	January 10, 2019	Submitted by:	Deanna-Marie Nati
Meeting Open:	6:30 p.m.	Adjourned:	8:39 p.m.
Next Meeting:	February 14, 2019		

Present:

Fr. Chris O'Connor
Ellen Valvo, Sr. Warden
Jeanne Percival, Jr. Warden
Beth Boron
Molly Ehlenfield
Megan MacConkey
Bob Mesmer - Absent
Marylou Pohl

Marge Schlau - Absent
Dave Porter
Kris Dodge - Absent
Elizabeth Wynne - Absent
Lynn Clark
Sharon Jones
Mark Korzelius
Pete Schlau - Absent

This meeting was the Annual Vestry Retreat/Meeting and it was held at Ellden's Grill.

Fr. Chris led the Vestry in prayer.

Ellen Valvo began the meeting with a brief overview of the Vestry for the new members. Ellen stated that the Vestry makes the "big decisions" of the church, and therefore people may come to you with questions, so the best thing to do is be prepared. There are mailboxes for each Vestry member outside of the office, and they should be checked weekly. Ellen discussed the rules of voting, and that a quorum is needed (3/4 members) for approval. Mark Korzelius asked if the Priest voted also, and the priest does not. Marylou Pohl stated that that is why it is important to be present at each meeting, and if you are unable to make it, please let the Wardens know. There may be time that you may be needed to vote on an issue, and it would help if you could be available by phone. Ellen also stated that because there has been so much to go over for the Vestry, there have been a few short meetings scheduled after service on Sundays.

The Vestry went around the table and introduced each member in case there were members who did not know each other.

Mark Korzelius asked about the different terms for Vestry members. Ellen Valvo stated that the Wardens serve a 2-year term, and the Vestry members serve a 3-year term. Fr. Chris stated that you couldn't serve 2 consecutive Vestry terms, but would have to wait 1 year and then run again. A Vestry member could however, serve a 3-year Vestry term and then run for Warden.

Ellen Valvo reviewed the Agenda, and stated that it had numerous items listed, but she put those

items on so that they would not be forgotten. This meeting is mostly about getting to know one another.

Day of Discovery

- Run by Rev'd Martha Ishman, Canon for Mission Development and Transition from NWPA
- Canon Cathy will be here also
- Fr. Chris stated that he received confirmation from Canon Cathy and Rev'd Ishman and will not be attending. This will allow people to feel comfortable and free to speak

Transition

- Ellen Valvo stated that things seem to be "settling"
- Beth Boron stated that we are finding our "new normal", and are getting better with the changes
- Fr. Chris stated that Fr. Earle retiring is technically a loss in church, and that this has been a mourning period. We have the opportunity to mourn someone that had been with us for 31 years, and in time, the pain will diminish. And that people may be at a different place in their process.

Length of Service

- Ellen Valvo asked if anyone had any thoughts regarding the length of services
- Fr. Chris stated that the concerns were regarding the 10am service
- Marylou Pohl suggested shortening the Peace & Thanksgiving Box
- Beth Boron stated that it is often difficult to hear the folks that are offering their Thanksgivings
- Megan MacConkey stated that Fr. Earle did repeat each Thanksgiving so that the congregation could hear them
- Molly Ehlenfield stated the we should ensure that the clipboard is being utilized and to make sure Vestry members go over it instead of asking for any additional announcements
- Marylou Pohl stated that we should only be going over time-sensitive announcements
- Beth Boron stated that if there is a big gap during the service for this, people may lose focus
- Mark Korzelius asked about the importance of the Thanksgiving Box and his thoughts that this might be causing the service to run long
- Sharon Jones explained what that money goes to, i.e. FJC, Giselle, etc. Sharon suggested having 2 boxes for each side of the church, and stated that sometimes people don't want to speak aloud when donating
- Beth Boron suggested maybe alternating each side when using the 2 boxes
- Molly Ehlenfield stated that the Thanksgiving Box is a big tradition and that it was one of the things that brought her to St. Martin's and has kept her here. Molly stated that the Sign of Peace is also something that she enjoys very much, and that it is much different

than the Catholic Church

- Sharon Jones asked how much longer the service is said to be running, and Molly Ehlenfield stated about 10 mins
- Beth Boron suggested ringing bells to get people back to their seats during Peace. Fr. Chris offered to ring the bells himself. Beth Boron also suggested not reading all of the announcements in the bulletin. Dave Porter brought up a subject that was discussed previously regarding the procedures for submitting announcements, and that the "last minute" people who use the clipboard on Sunday get their announcement highlighted during the service
- Vestry decided that they will announce the change for the announcements during service and only highlight the time-sensitive items

Choir Leadership

- Ellen Valvo discussed the status of the Choir Leadership, and that there have been some challenges with the new Director. Fr. Chris and the Wardens will speak to Tim to clarify expectations and keep the Choir moving in a positive direction, as this is a sensitive matter. Ellen Valvo agreed that would be the next step.
- Fr. Chris reiterated that there may be times during the Vestry meetings that sensitive issues may be discussed
- Beth Boron stated that they did go through a search process, and that the decision was a collaborative effort

Rectory Finance

- Molly Ehlenfield stated that Daryl Ehlenfield wanted her to mention the land next to the Rectory again
- Beth Boron stated that that should be revisited, and when other Vestry members asked where the land was located, Beth stated that the bulletin board next to the Vestry bulletin board has the information for this land on it
- Molly Ehlenfield stated that during the last meeting, a Meat Raffle was discussed as a fundraising idea. Beth Boron stated that there is one taking place on Saturday, March 9 that would be a great chance to see the event
- Ellen brought up fundraising for the Rectory Renovation project. Ellen stated that we have \$20,000, but we may need \$40,000 - \$60,000
- Jeanne Percival stated that she does not want to deplete the Capital Fund
- Ellen Valvo asked if we should solicit donations?
- Megan MacConkey asked how the funds were received for the windows project and the addition?
- Beth Boron answered that donations were given just for the windows specifically
- Molly Ehlenfield asked if there were grants available for renovations, and Fr. Chris stated that there are not for renovations, but there are for relocation expenses
- Ellen Valvo asked the Vestry how they felt about asking for money. Molly Ehlenfield asked, what do we do if we do not reach our goal? Ellen Valvo asked, how long we

- have to get the funds to complete the renovations?
- Mark Korzelius suggested maybe doing the renovations in stages. Molly Ehlenfield and Marylou Pohl stated that the Rectory is needed for the new Rector.
- Jeanne Percival stated that most items on the renovation list are necessary
- Beth Boron asked if Julie DeAngelo was the Project Manager, and Ellen Valvo and Jeanne Percival replied that yes, she is
- Beth Boron suggested coming up with a meaningful name for the drive, and maybe include tiers/pledges/bonds/phases
- Dave Porter stated that the role of the Vestry in this process should be to allocate the monies, and that it should not be our place to bring the funds in, just to designate where they should go. Dave suggested having a committee for this. Jeanne Percival stated to maybe seek out members of the church for this committee. Ellen Valvo asked if anyone had any names. Megan MacConkey stated that we should reach out to the congregation for this committee instead, and explain that we have a committee for the project, but that we are looking for a fundraising committee. Ellen Valvo stated that she would discuss this during the announcements on Sunday
- Molly Ehlenfield, Jeanne Percival, and Beth Boron discussed having Julie DeAngelo make a priority list of what must be done first and so on

Other Items Discussed

- Fr. Chris stated that he was contacted for us to participate in the Lenten Luncheon Series again this year. Marylou Pohl stated that she would contact Chris Chipp to let her know because she is the lead for this event
- Beth Boron suggested another way to alleviate the length of service issues, is to not have the Anointing for Healing on the same Sunday as the Vestry Announcements. Fr. Chris stated that we will change the Healing to the 4th Sunday of the month. Jeanne Percival asked to place something in the bulletin letting people know of the change, and offered to call Amy Pickwell to let her know as well.
- Jeanne Percival also requested putting a sign up near the Legacy Society Recognition Tree stating that more information will be coming soon because some of the congregation is confused as to what it's for. Deanna will take care of this sign.

The next Vestry meeting will be Thurs. February 14, 2019 at 7pm.

Who will speak to the congregation on Sunday about tonight's Vestry meeting?

8:00 a.m. Sharon Jones

10:00 a.m. Ellen Valvo

Sunday Announcement Schedule:

Jan. 13 – Ellen Valvo

Jan. 20 – Dave Porter

Jan. 27 - Mark Korzelius

Feb. 3 - Jeanne Percival

Motion to adjourn was offered by Dave Porter. The motion was seconded by Sharon Jones. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report for December 2018 (as emailed to the Vestry)

Operating Fund	\$ 6,545
Capital Fund	24,907
Gift Fund	6,117
Total	\$37,569

Attachments:

1. Vestry Meeting Agenda - January 10, 2019 - Ellen Valvo
2. December Income Statement - Mike Somer