

St. Martin's Episcopal Church

Vestry meeting: June 25, 2024, at the church.

Present: The Rev. Josh Bowron; Mike McCrohan, senior warden; David White, junior warden; Jen Daniel; Liza Daisley; Stewart Rowe; Ellen Rayburn; Sarah Binder; Heather Carty Ward; Katie Monson; Edward Woodall.

Not present: Leo Martinez; Kathleen Purvis, recording clerk. (Liza Daisley took notes in Kathleen's absence.)

The meeting commenced at 7:04 p.m. with an opening prayer by David White.

Formation: Father Josh Bowron led a formation session focused on artistic representations of Mark's account of the healing of the paralytic, encouraging reflections on different emphases of the story.

The agenda and the minutes from the May meeting were reviewed. Father Josh proposed an amendment to the agenda to include a presentation by Katie Kirby about the Memorial Garden, which was approved by Stewart and Jen, with all in favor. The minutes from the May meeting were approved as presented, with a motion by Stewart and seconded by Mike, with all in favor.

Father Josh presented the Rector's report, which included a notice from the Bishop regarding the removal of David Sellery from ordained ministry in the Episcopal Church. Details of the upcoming Vestry Retreat were shared: on July 12, from 6-9 p.m. at McCrohan's house with a potluck dinner, and on July 13, from 9-2 p.m. at the church with lunch provided.

There was a discussion on a personnel issue regarding the resignation of Nancy Culp effective June 30. The role will be redefined to some degree. Nancy's departure in two weeks creates a time crunch, with Jen noting the challenges of combining roles that may not fit well together.

Katie Kirby presented the history, current state, and needs of the Memorial Garden. Initially an Eagle Scout project by Craig Davis, it was later named Davis Elliot Garden after John Elliot's family joined the project. It started with 22 interred and now has 120, but faces issues such as a dangerous slate walkway and limited space for new cremains. The garden also needs consistent maintenance and has financial constraints. There was a discussion on pricing, with Josh suggesting a fee of around \$1500 (in keeping with other local parishes) to include gardening services, and Edward tasked with drawing up a proposal. A motion for Edward to present two options, including prepayment and increased fees for interment at \$1500 with annual increases, was passed with all in favor.

Following Katie's presentation, the Parish Administrator discussion resumed. A committee will review applicants for a position with a salary of \$56k plus pension and full health and dental benefits. There was a discussion on kitchen maintenance and hospitality budget, leading to a motion to give Justi and Willis a 4% pay raise, which was approved.

In the absence of Scott Hall, Mike presented the financial report. Income was down by \$5000-\$6000, and unpledged income had decreased while expenses had increased. The finance committee is considering a more realistic budget creation method. There was a discussion on the diocesan fair share appeal for 2024, with a decision to wait for the

outcome and not appeal for 2025. This motion passed with all in favor except Jen, who abstained.

Senior Warden Mike McCrohan reported on the return of \$18k from an uncashed check by a furniture store used for renovations and the remaining \$40k from the capital campaign to be used for sacristy renovations. There was an update on Carlos, who had been banned and arrested for nuisance and vandalism activities. The nomination of David White as Junior Warden and Kathleen as Clerk was approved.

Junior Warden David White presented a printed report covering the removal of a dead dogwood tree, quotes for outside lighting on the altar window, sacristy renovation quotes, and efforts to remove the security system. He also addressed the building and grounds reserve fund issue and mentioned a vestry orientation to the finance committee, with Scott to attend the Vestry Retreat. A safety plan update was scheduled for the next meeting. The July meeting will be skipped.

New business included a discussion on VPOD duties and the Vestry meeting schedule proposed by Katie Monson, however this was not detailed as Katie had left.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m. with a motion by Jen and seconded by Sarah.