

St. Martin's Episcopal Church vestry minutes

Feb. 25, 2025, at the church

Present: The Rev. Josh Bowron; Mike McCrohan, senior warden; David White, junior warden; Joel Strangis, finance committee co-chair; Katie Monson; Rachel Halsey, St. Martin's Foundation chair; Kathleen Purvis, vestry clerk; Liza Daisley; Sarah Bender; Ellen Rayburn; Edward Woodall; Heather Carty Ward.

Not present: Stewart Rowe; Leo Martinez; Jen Daniel.

Father Josh called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and opened with a prayer.

Formation: Father Josh called on the vestry to pray a liturgy, in this case the opening collect for Ash Wednesday.

Sarah Binder voted to accept the agenda as submitted. Edward Woodall seconded.

Motion carried.

Liza Daisley made a motion to accept the minutes with an amendment to correct a name spelling. Sarah seconded. Motion carried.

Foundation report, Rachel Halsey: Rachel explained the background and the basic operations of the St. Martin's Foundation, and presented a proposal to update the Foundation Declaration of Trust to give the vestry more flexibility to use the foundation disbursements to address the needs of the parish. The proposal involved two steps:

- Establish a faith-based operations fund, combining the current mission, Christian formation and building and grounds funds, which would allow the foundation disbursements to be directed toward current needs as determined by the vestry.

- Establish a new building and grounds fund pending a minimum of \$25,000 in initial fundraising to begin targeting money for expected building work in the next few years.

After discussion, the vestry voted to accept the proposal.

Rector's report; full report available on Realm. Father Josh covered:

- The music search committee update. The vestry will need to revisit the compensation package at the April meeting.
- There are two promising candidates for the hospitality position; an announcement is expected soon.
- Update on discernment process for Micah Belong, Emily Sharpe and Derek Luther.
- Father Josh presented the annual parochial report. Mike made a motion to accept it; Katie seconded. Motion carried.

Senior warden/treasurers report, Mike McCrohan and Joel Strangis:

- Crown Castle cellular tower proposal. The request is to lease a 30-by-30-foot segment of our empty lot for a 130-foot cell tower for \$2000 a month for 35 years. The vestry discussed site visits to understand the size of the tower and the placement, and discussed whether the price being offered is too low, considering the future limitations on our land use and the potential problems for our tenants.
- Vestry elections: Nominations have closed, with four candidates, the minimum needed, so the parish won't need to vote. Candidates are Richard Ertel, Ethan Norman, Lauren Parrish and Susie Crain.

- Bylaws revisions: Mike submitted the needed revisions, including changing the personnel committee to a vestry subcommittee that would work with and advise the rector. The vestry agreed to consider an electronic vote.
- Designated funds proposal: Mike made a motion to accept a proposal from the finance committee to trim the number of them, finishing a discussion that began with the Mission Task Force to redirect funds from mission accounts that are no longer active. The motion carried.

Junior warden's report, David White (full report available on Realm):

- Update on the sacristy renovation, which will be completed by Holy Week.
- Update on the installation of the new front doors.
- Update on replacing a degraded window in the meditation room.
- Kitchen equipment and Flower Guild work area is ongoing.

Edward made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m. Liza seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Kathleen Purvis, clerk of the vestry.