

Minutes of the St. Michael & All Angels Vestry  
June 19, 2017

Meeting convened at 6:30 pm. Dinner was offered.

Present: Associate Rector Reverend David Cox; Archdeacon Monte Giddings; Sr. Warden Marty Pyle; Jr. Warden Bob Carlson; Treasurer Win Zoellner; Secretary Lindsay Mohn; Lindsey Hill; Margaret Thompson; Lisa Welker; Leta Anderson; Leslie Malle; Scott Schaefer; David Schlomer; Gordon Alloway; Dahl Metters

Absent: Allie Marquis; Dennis Kissinger; David Allen

Guest: Norm Olson

Father Cox opened the meeting with a prayer. There was no formal Jr. Warden's report.

Treasurer Zoellner reported that May's revenue and expenses were just about on budget. However, the expense of sealing and restriping the parking lot was about \$1K more than expected. A Transitional Funding Campaign is underway. These funds will require a separate line item. Parish Administrator Liz Beedle is working to compile a list of individuals who plan to reduce their pledges or stop pledging altogether. Mr. Zoellner said that to date we have received indications of approximately \$10K in pledge reductions.

Sr. Warden Pyle reported that a few new committees have been formed over the last couple of weeks. The Transitional Committee is working to raise funds to pay for an Interim Rector. They have received a commitment of \$55K from the first five people to respond. They expect to contact 30 parishioners and hope to raise between \$150K – 200K. Mr. Olson remarked that this type of situation (a Rector resigning) is actually a fairly common occurrence. A new committee focused on Vestry Communication has also been formed. Mr. Alloway will be the Director. A letter has already been sent to parishioners who attended the meeting designed for families of youth and children. A letter is also being written to send to the group of parishioners who attended last Thursday's meeting. The parish email list is incomplete in spite of John Goddard's work on it last year. It was proposed that an effort to ensure it is complete be made annually, perhaps at the time Sunday School starts. Mr. Alloway suggested Vestry meetings could be used more efficiently if all reports were available in advance. Reports could be approved by way of a Consent Agenda. There was a question regarding which staff member was responsible for sending out the Newsletter and the Announcement sheet handed out with the Sunday Bulletin. Liz Beedle writes the online Newsletter and Judy Erickson creates the Announcement sheet. Father Cox noted that at the time he joined the parish, about 70 printed newsletters were made available to those who did not use electronic media. That is not currently done because of the format of the newsletter. There are multiple embedded links that would not translate to text. Father Cox added that although certain staff members are technically responsible for certain tasks, all of them are flexible by necessity, and are willing and able to help with whatever needs to be done.

The May Minutes were accepted as written.

The meeting went into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue.

The group reconvened after a break, and Stewardship Consultant Norm Olson took the floor. Mr. Pyle gave a short introduction noting Mr. Olson's education and prior work experience. Mr. Olson has been in solo practice for about five years. Mr. Olson opened his report by encouraging the Vestry to have faith. He met with Father Huddleston and Warden Pyle a couple of months ago, and suggested a Stewardship Survey be created to give parishioners a tool to use to communicate their primary reasons for pledging, or for not pledging. The original survey ran to 13,000 words of commentary. Remarks about Father Huddleston have been removed from the survey being reviewed at this time. This was done in the interest of looking forward, but the complete survey was also made available for the Vestry to review. Mr. Olson thought that written Thank You notes would have been better than the Thank You phone calls that Vestry made. A number of parishioners mentioned they were unhappy about the loss of coffee hour. Mr. Olson suggested reinstating coffee hour rather than using it as Adult Education time, and improving the quality of the refreshments offered. He noted that Dr. Walker's Music Ministry was mentioned many times, and always in a positive way. Father Cox said he had heard that many people missed Evensong. Ms. Welker noted that Shawnee Mission East High School music groups perform at Village Church on a regular basis. That could be a point of entry to STMAA we might consider. Mr. Olson suggested the Stewardship Campaign kick-off in the fall, with an emphasis on Theology, Vision and Mission. The message should focus on the goals and benefits of the campaign. A Chair for the Committee should be selected as soon as possible. That person should either be a Vestry member or become an Adjunct Member of the Vestry and Finance Committee. Parishioners reported that the quality of the sermons offered was second in importance to the Music Ministry. Multiple people requested that Father Cox preach more often. Mr. Olson suggested recruiting Vestry candidates far earlier in the year, and having them attend several meetings in advance of their actual seating so they learn about the responsibilities early on. Ministry Liaison relationships should be resurrected. We need to find the right person to take over the Children's Ministry as soon as possible. Mr. Olson suggested contacting the Wardens at a couple of local Episcopal churches to see if they have ideas to share. A Committee will be formed in the near future to give recommendations to the Vestry. A new email address has been set up for use of the Vestry. It is [vestry@stmaa.com](mailto:vestry@stmaa.com). Mr. Alloway will be responsible for managing this web address.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsay Mohn  
Clerk of the Vestry