

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
VESTRY MEETING MINUTES  
March 17, 2016

**Present:** Senior Warden- Linda Drummond, Treasurer- Christine Winslow, Clerk – Mattie Gustafson, Christian Myers, Chris Barker, Judy Hall, Chris Bartlett, Jenny Williams, Amanda Westrom, Trish Culver, David Ferkinhoff.

**Absent:** Dave Monroe, Anna Zambrano and the Reverend Jennifer Pedrick, Rector

Linda opened the meeting at 6:50 p.m. by reading the Episcopal Bishops' *A Word to the Church*, issued on March 15, 2016.

**Consent Agenda**

Trish Culver made a motion, seconded by Chris Bartlett, that the Consent Agenda, which included Minutes for the February 18<sup>th</sup> Vestry Meeting, the Senior Warden's Report and the Property Commission Report, be accepted. The motion was passed.

Linda went on to clarify one thing on the Property Report – The Executive Committee had made the decision to go ahead with treating the diseased trees, as this treatment was time-sensitive. Christine W. explained that, for now, monies would come from the Tree Trimming budget line.

**Senior Warden's Report**

***Assistant Search***

Linda brought the Vestry up to date *re* the ongoing search for an Assistant to the Rector. She had skyped with three (!) candidates during the week and she feels we have a good assortment of people applying for this position. The search continues.

***End of Life program***, given by the Pastoral Care Commission

This has been a really good series that has had participation from parish members and from the community. Congratulations go out to the Pastoral Care Commission for offering this program. Chris Bartlett suggested that because we had from 25-30 people attend, this might be a program to consider repeating – maybe even on an annual basis.

***Holy Week Services***

Are all scheduled. Linda urged Vestry members to attend as many services as possible.

**Treasurer's Report**

Christine W. took us through the Balance Sheet for January and February. Thus far, there is nothing remarkable to report. She was thankful that pledging income was coming in slightly above the budgeted amount.

Sue and Hugh Hall are donating \$5,000 in memory and in honor of Norma Stoddard, who passed away recently. After discussing the donation with Jennifer, it was decided this money would go toward the purchase of a Baptismal Font for the St. George's Chapel, as well as some linens and other worship related items.

***Parochial Report*** – Is almost done. Christine passed out a draft and took the Vestry through some of the numbers. She is still working on some refinements. Once completed, she will send out an electronic copy to all Vestry members for review, and leave a physical copy in the Office. Each Vestry member needs to come in and sign the report, before it can be mailed to the Diocese.

Dave F. made a motion, seconded by Amanda W. to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion passed.

### **Raising the Roof Committee**

The Committee thus far is Chris Barker, convener, Chris Bartlett and Anna Zambrano. We should try to get at least 2-3 more folks (if not more!), not on the Vestry, to serve on this committee. After Holy Week, Linda will ask Jennifer to make an announcement about *Raising the Roof* and ask for volunteers. Both Chris Bartlett and Chris Barker felt it was important to have Dave M.'s report from the Property Commission before any concrete work could be started. This report will give the Committee an idea of the order of magnitude we are talking about with fund raising, and also thoughts on priorities.

Linda asked the Raising the Roof Committee if it would be possible to have at least a preliminary plan drawn up for the April Vestry meeting.

Dave F. asked if part of the charge of this committee was to investigate use of the Parish House by outside groups. He noted that the Newport Comedy series was looking for a new venue. Linda said that this was not part of the Committee's charge, but she would look into this.

### **Financial FAQs**

The Finance Committee and Jennifer will be working on drawing up some basic, financial FAQs to help explain St. Mary's finances.

### **New Business**

Community Garden Committee request – presented by Christian M. for Dave M.  
"With the imminent loss of Bob Gessler our lead community garden manager as he moves to Texas the garden group under the leadership of Elise LaParle Garcia wants to shift our focus from a church giving garden to a community garden where we rent individual garden patches to parishioners and people in the community at large."

