

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

Barrington, Illinois

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting of Monday, September 19, 2022

6:00 p.m. – Rectory

Present: The Rev. Jesse Perkins (Rector), John Garcia (Senior Warden-2023), Lindsay Taylor (Junior Warden-2023), Kathi Frelk (2023), Ric Lindeen (2023), David Rauschenberg (2023), Gwen Weibel (2023), Carol Berman (2024), Melissa Buckley (2024), Greg Mears (2024), Doug Torbeck (2024), Marisa Boynton (2025), Brant Deichmann (2025), John Davis (Treasurer), Craig Anderson (Clerk)

Absent: John Totten (2025)

The Vestry and Fr. Perkins gathered for fellowship and dinner at the rectory beginning at 6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order and Opening Prayer

There being a quorum present, Fr. Perkins called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

Fr. Perkins offered the opening prayer at the time of dinner.

2. Approval of Agenda

Ric Lindeen moved, and Kathy Frelk seconded, that the agenda be approved as presented. Upon a voice vote: All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

3. Approval of Minutes

Vestry Meeting – July 18, 2022

Kathi Frelk moved, and Melissa Buckley seconded, that the minutes of the July 18, 2022, meeting of the Vestry be approved as presented. Upon a voice vote: All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

4. Financial Report

John Davis noted a non-budgeted monetary gift to St. Michael's in the amount of \$25,000 received in July. From this donation, \$2,500 is being contributed to the Diocese and \$2,500 is being contributed to St. Michael's Outreach. Pledge receipts continue to be ahead of budget.

David Rauschenberg moved, and Melissa Buckley seconded, that the July 2022 Financial Statements and the August 2022 Financial Statements be approved as presented. Upon a voice vote: All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

5. New Business

Fr. Perkins Sabbatical

Fr. Perkins presented an update on plans for his sabbatical during May – July 2023. He reported that Fr. Jim Swarthout and Deacon Tim Murray are on-board to assist, with Fr. Swarthout covering Sunday services and Deacon Murray providing pastoral care coverage. Parish business matters that might require attention during the time of the sabbatical would be addressed by the Senior Warden. Some approvals from the Diocese are still needed to finalize the sabbatical.

6. Old Business

No items.

7. Committee Reports

Building and Grounds Committee

Brant Deichmann and Fr. Perkins presented an update on design ideas and possible options for church building access improvements at the entrance near the Community Room. Currently, there is a concrete ramp and concrete stairs for building access at that location.

Some improvement suggestions presented include replacement of the existing ramp with an outside deck, installation of a metal ramp where there is now a flower bed, installation of an enclosed power lift, and placement of an awning over the stairs. It was noted that Rob Wisnowski has been continuing to work on this project.

During Vestry discussion it was suggested that another fundraiser picnic could be a mechanism to help cover costs associated with this improvement project; there is definite need for having at least one automatic entrance door for the building; and having a comprehensive plan for the improvements could encourage financial support. Also, installation of an enclosed power lift is not desirable due to the potential for function and maintenance problems, as well as difficulty in use.

Based on comments offered, improvement options will be narrowed down, design ideas refined, and project cost quotes obtained.

Youth Advisory Committee

Ric Lindeen advised that a lot is being asked of Kay Lewis. There is need to continue to provide her with assistance. The search for a youth group coordinator is continuing.

Parish Vision

Fr. Perkins reminded that the CAT (congregational assessment tool) survey starts next week. Also, the Vestry retreat has been scheduled for the evening of October 28, 2022, through the morning of October 29, 2022, at the Nazareth Spirituality Center in Batavia.

Stewardship

Marisa Boynton reported that work is in progress for the kick-off of this year's stewardship campaign, including luncheon arrangements. Fr. Gregg Morris, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Downers Grove, will be a guest speaker regarding stewardship. The October meeting of the Vestry will include a focus on stewardship.

8. Rector's Report

Fr. Perkins noted that our Diocese has a new Bishop, Paula Clark. Also, there has been good response for the upcoming Ministry Fair.

Fr. Perkins reported on St. Michael's staffing needs, including for the nursery, as well as for building cleaning. It is likely that a cleaning firm will need to be hired for a period. Also, he provided an update on major fundraising possibilities, such as establishment of a charitable remainder trust.

9. Senior Warden's Report

John Garcia commented on the installation of Bishop Clark, noting that it was amazing and very inspirational.

John Garcia and Melissa Buckley advised that some Outreach emergency funds will be used to assist a Ukrainian refugee family with payment of rent for a month.

John asked the Vestry to help determine next steps to implement security improvements at St. Michael's. It was noted that some work already has been done, including a Saturday morning training session. Vestry members offered ideas and thoughts during discussion. This topic will be an agenda item for the next Vestry meeting.

10. Closing Blessing

Fr. Perkins offered a closing blessing.

11. Motion to Adjourn

Melissa Buckley moved, and David Rauschenberg seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. Upon a voice vote: All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Craig G. Anderson

Craig G. Anderson, Clerk