

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

Barrington, Illinois

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting of Monday, October 24, 2022

6:00 p.m. – Residence of Senior Warden

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

Absent: Ric Lindeen (2023), Gwen Weibel (2023), Carol Berman (2024), John Totten (2025)

In Attendance: The Rev. Gregg Morris, Rector, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Downers Grove; St. Michael's parishioners Gwynne Johnston, Wes Kimes, Kay Lewis

All present gathered for fellowship and dinner at the home of the Senior Warden beginning at 6:00 p.m. Fr. Perkins offered an opening prayer.

Following dinner, Fr. Morris offered comments and insights on stewardship, with a focus on parish vision, resourcefulness, and vitality. He will attend worship services at St. Michael's on Sunday, October 30, to address stewardship.

1. Call to Order and Opening Prayer

There being a quorum present, Lindsay Taylor called the meeting to order at 7:39 p.m. Fr. Perkins gave the opening prayer at the time of dinner.

2. Approval of Agenda

There being no objection, the agenda was approved as presented.

3. Approval of Minutes

Vestry Meeting – September 19, 2022

Melissa Buckley moved, and Marisa Boynton seconded, that the minutes of the September 19, 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 that revenues and expenditures continue to be on track.

Kathi Frelk moved, and Doug Torbeck seconded, that the September 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 reported that arrangements are in place for his sabbatical during May – July 2023.

Charitable Remainder Trust

Gwynne Johnston provided a review of the concept, objectives, and the necessary actions associated with the establishment of a preservation fund to help secure the long-term viability of St. Michael's. Written information outlining the proposal for the preservation fund was provided to the Vestry in advance of the meeting.

The fund would be established through donations from parishioners and other appropriate donors. Potential financial benefits to donors include a tax deduction for a charitable donation, as well as receipt of dividends at the discretion of the limited liability corporation which would be formed for the purpose of establishing and administering a long-term trust fund.

The Vestry offered comments, thoughts, and questions related to the proposal, including management of the fund, legal requirements, and contractual relationships. With the consent of the Vestry next steps could be taken toward establishing the fund.

Brant Deichmann moved, and Greg Mears seconded, that the Vestry approve moving forward with next steps to start the process toward establishing the preservation fund, with the understanding that final documents and commitments will require Vestry approval. Upon a voice vote: All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

2023 Vestry Slate

Lindsay Taylor noted that candidates for the Vestry are still being sought.

Vestry Retreat

Fr. Perkins advised that an email was sent to the Vestry earlier today with additional information about the upcoming retreat on Friday evening, October 28, 2022, through Saturday morning, October 29, 2022, at the Nazareth Spirituality Center in Batavia.

6. Old Business

No items.

7. Committee Reports

Building and Grounds Committee

Brant Deichmann reported that work on some minor projects is continuing.

Youth Advisory Committee

Fr. Perkins reported that the daughter of Kay Lewis has been hired to serve as Youth Coordinator on a temporary basis, approximately three months. Fr. Perkins noted that the LIFT youth group is doing well.

Parish Vision

Fr. Perkins reported that there was good response to the CAT (congregational assessment tool) survey, with approximately 100 responses received.

Stewardship

Lindsay Taylor and Marisa Boynton reported that all is place, including luncheon arrangements, for the kick-off of this year's stewardship campaign on Sunday, October 30, 2022. Vestry members were provided with contact information to follow up with parishioners who have not yet provided an RSVP for the luncheon.

8. Rector's Report

Fr. Perkins reported that two nursery workers have been hired, advised that a maintenance firm has been found to assist with church building maintenance on an as-needed basis, and commented on the upcoming Vestry retreat.

Based on responses to the parish survey, Fr. Perkins is exploring options for use of the common cup at the Holy Eucharist. The responses to the survey are evenly divided with respect to whether there should be a return to use of the common cup.

9. Senior Warden's Report

John Garcia thanked Gwynne Johnston for his work and presentation regarding the preservation fund, Kay Lewis for this year's outstanding pumpkin sale, Fr. Morris for his stewardship presentation at this evening's meeting, and the Vestry for coming to this evening's meeting. John noted that he is looking forward to the retreat.

10. Closing Prayer

Fr. Perkins offered a closing prayer.

11. Motion to Adjourn

There being no objection, the meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Craig G. Anderson

Craig G. Anderson, Clerk