

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

Barrington, Illinois

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting of Monday, January 23, 2023

7:00 p.m. – Virtual (Via Zoom)

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

Absent: Ric Lindeen (2023), David Rauschenberg (2023), Marisa Boynton (2025), John Totten (2025)

1. Call to Order and Opening Prayer

There being a quorum present, John Garcia called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Fr. Perkins offered the opening prayer.

2. Approval of Agenda

Melissa Buckley requested that 'Rebuilding Together' be added to the agenda under New Business.

Kathi Frelk moved, and Carol Berman seconded, that the agenda be approved as amended to include 'Rebuilding Together' under New Business. Upon a voice vote: All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

3. Approval of Minutes

Vestry Meeting – December 19, 2022 (Via Zoom)

Carol Berman moved, and Doug Torbeck seconded, that the minutes of the December 19, 2022, meeting of the Vestry be approved as presented. Upon a voice vote: All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

4. Financial Report – December 2022 and Year 2022

John Davis provided a summary review of St. Michael's financials for fiscal/calendar year 2022. With respect to surpluses and deficits, it was noted that St. Michael's ended 2022 with an excess of \$83,169; the 2022 budget had a projected deficit of \$14,281. Actual revenue results were better than anticipated with respect to Member Pledges and Regular Gifts, Interest and Dividends, the Preschool Net Contribution, and other income items. Actual total expense items were lower than budgeted by \$3,300.

During discussion, it was suggested that some of the revenue surplus be used to replace the Community Room heating and cooling equipment, and that some of the revenue surplus, along with an unexpected financial gift to St. Michael's, be used to address the repair or replacement of the exterior ramp outside of the Community Room.

Melissa Buckley moved, and Greg Mears seconded, that the 2022 financial results (Annual Report 2022) be approved. Upon a voice vote: All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

The proposed use of the 2022 revenue surplus to address replacement of the Community Room heating and cooling equipment and to address repair or replacement of the exterior ramp adjacent to the Community Room was discussed further.

Greg Mears moved, and Brant Deichmann seconded, that \$40,000 of the revenue surplus be designated for the Community Room ramp project, and \$40,000 of the revenue surplus be designated for the Community Room heating and cooling equipment project. Upon a voice vote: All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

5. New Business

2023 Annual Budget

John Davis reviewed the proposed budget for St. Michael's for 2023.

While the proposed budget for 2023 reflects a deficit of \$65,806, historically actual expenditures have been less than budgeted due to thrifty and careful spending practices by St. Michael's staff and ministry leaders. Revenue projections are generally conservative. Good financial stewardship has resulted in a strong Cash Reserve Equity position.

Kathi Frelk moved, and Melissa Buckley seconded, that St. Michael's 2023 Annual Budget be approved. Upon a voice vote: All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

Gifts Survey

Lindsay Taylor provided an update on preparation of the spiritual gifts survey. Melissa Buckley and Lindsay have worked together to develop the survey questions. The reasons for the questions being asked and the ministry activities which they are intended to address were noted. The results of the survey should help the Vestry toward more active interaction with ministries at St. Michael's. Lindsay and Melissa encourage the Vestry to complete the practice survey as soon as possible.

Based on some discussions with parishioners, Carol Berman suggested the possibility of having Vestry contacts for parish ministries. Lindsay noted that the survey results might assist with some renewed engagement between those ministries and the Vestry.

Rebuilding Together

Melissa Buckley provided information regarding Rebuilding Together, an organization which sponsors an annual one-day event to assist low income and elderly homeowners with repair and maintenance of their homes. Volunteers undertake the needed repair and maintenance work. This year's event is scheduled for Saturday, April 29. St. Michael's has been asked to assist with a project in Blue Island. Melissa requested that the Vestry consider and approve an Outreach grant in an amount up to \$3,000 to assist Rebuilding Together.

St. Michael's parishioners Jill and Brant Deichmann have been active with Rebuilding Together. Brant provided additional information about Rebuilding Together projects, including repair and maintenance project work done by volunteers.

Melissa Buckley moved, and Carol Berman seconded, that an Outreach grant of up to \$3,000 be approved for Rebuilding Together. Upon a voice vote: All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

6. Old Business

None

7. Committee Reports (As Requested)

Building and Grounds Committee

Brant Deichmann noted work to address some needed repairs. He also advised that some trees have been trimmed.

Carol Berman inquired about the status of some “wish list” projects. Brant advised that some items are on the list to be accomplished. Fr. Perkins indicated that Kim Curtis has some priority items on the list, especially the Community Room ramp project. John Davis noted that Kim requested some items to be included in the 2023 budget.

8. Rector’s Report

Fr. Perkins commented on his recent family visit to Arkansas. He also noted several other items, including the process undertaken for a recent wedding in St. Michael’s chapel; several pastoral care needs; Christmas dinners provided to several parishioners by a donor; the Guatemala trip has been canceled; the recent return to St. Michael’s of some former parishioners; formation of a team to bake bread for use at Holy Eucharist; preparation of the digital ballot for early and absentee voting to elect Vestry members; the upcoming parish staff luncheon; parish staffing updates; exploration of some possible Holy Week activities with other nearby congregations; and sabbatical plans.

9. Senior Warden’s Report

John Garcia noted that St. Michael’s and the Vestry will be well-served with the leadership of Lindsay Taylor. John extended his thanks and appreciation to all.

Fr. Perkins thanked John for his service.

10. Closing Prayer

Fr. Perkins led the Vestry in prayer and offered a blessing.

11. Motion to Adjourn

Kathi Frelk moved, and Melissa Buckley seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. Upon a voice vote: All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Craig G. Anderson

Craig G. Anderson, Clerk