

The Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Meeting
of the Vestry of St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Tues. May 23, 2023, 7pm

Present: Fr. M, Richard, Pam, Maura, Fran, Irene, Digger, Matthew

Absent: Indira, Brian

Guest: The Very Rev. Eric Montoyer, Regional Dean of SF Deanery

Opened with prayer @ 7:04 pm by Fr. M.

Vital & Thriving

Conversation w/ Fr. Montoyer was the Rector of St. Francis of Assisi and was one of the first cohorts in the program. (Our regional dean is The Rev. Bruce O'Neill.) The new Deanery Deans are another conduit of information between the Laity & the Diocese.

Fr. Montoyer explained his understanding of the program. Two teams are necessary; the survey team & the review team. Survey is then presented to the Parish. He described the Timeline process which looked at the sweep of time, both good & bad. His parish was enthusiastic about the process, which is very Lay driven. He was not there for the entire process. The process also didn't seek to know the experiences of those who use the spaces. He found it an interesting exercise. Clergy is removed from the process, so he does not have the insight to talk about that. He's generally positive, but he wasn't there to see the end effect. They are a small parish still recovering from COVID. He found the timeline exercise to be very valuable. It does require a 2-3 year commitment. Diocesan staff is very invested in this program and have the carrot out there in the form of grant money from the Diocese. Digger asked if this program would be a good one to use as a bridge for calling a new rector? No. The best use of Vital & Thriving is to put a mirror up to the Parish and asking, "Who are we?" How do we define it? Surveys have great value. Numbers are tool. **Def. survey/reach out folks who have not returned to church.** We discussed our impressions of the program, comparing what Rev. Scott told us vs. Rev. Eric's take.

Who did we think we were?

Who are we now?

Who do we want to be?

We ARE different after COVID. Everything has changed.

PROS:

There is a support team available that keeps us accountable

Regular meetings keep things moving along.

Survey, tools, numbers

Can we do it ourselves, or do we need some help with it?

Minutes

With no corrections noted, Richard moved to approve. Matthew 2nd. Approved by consensus.

Finances

Tabled until the next meeting. Brian away @ daughter's graduation and Joan not yet done with reports.

Stewardship Meeting is scheduled for May 30th @ 7pm

Pam setting up Zoom coordinates. Indira as Sr. Warden us convening. Invite Maura & Richard

B&G - Richard

Bill Davis & Richard are repairing some pews.

Richard has started a buildings survey. There is a 2013 report for the church & school campus roofs that gave a rough cost & timeline. There have been repairs since then. but now replacements. \$250-300,000 for just the church buildings. We may want to add gutters and parapet work \$50,000. Assess the state of the masonry - renovations of the brickwork.

Action Plan

How are we assured that we can reach everyone? Macro & Micro!

- Personal Conversations
- Surveys
- Charettes/Parish Meetings
- Outreach to folks who haven't been coming to church
- Neighbors
- School
- Renters
- Stakeholders

Membership & Welcoming

There was a lot of energy around things, but ownership of tasks isn't clear

More help is needed for Coffee Hours & Pot Lucks

Loaves & Fishes was discussed - Parish Inreach

What all fits into this committee?

We developed a better understanding of the Usher's duties

Nametags are under Welcoming, not Ushers.

As far as a Parish Directory: We need a way for folks to be able to opt out of their info being published in the Parish Directory

Covid Protocols

The protocols have changed - there is no longer a mask mandate. It is now an individual decision. We aren't at the end of COVID: there have been 20 cases at St. Paul's Towers. We have to keep caring for each-other.

Vote on Cara Meredith's Postulancy

Richard made a motion to approve Cara's Meredith's Postulancy: The Vestry does hereby approve the Postulancy of Cara Meredith/

Matthew 2nd

Maura abstain

6 in favor

Pam will complete the P-5 Document & will file it with the Diocese.

Fr. M. will also approve.

Fundraising Committee - Fr. M. would like to hire a fundraising professional to help us reach outside the Parish like folks who cherish Oakland & landmark historical buildings. We also have the history book to build on.

Communications Committee - need to form

Maura would like to be involved.

Remembering The Rev. Anne Jensen

Anne's memorial service is scheduled for Thurs. July 6th @ 5pm The Vestry will organize the Repast. Bishop Marc will not be able to attend, but many other clergy will. We will have a large crowd.

Next meeting on Tuesday, June 27th at 6pm Indira's house.

Meeting adjourned with prayer at 8:50 pm.