

St. Mary of the Hills
Vestry Meeting
March 15, 2022

Vestry Members Present: (In person) Tim Silver (Senior Warden), Bob Finney (Junior Warden), Doug Galke, Patty Patella, Chip Monroe
(Via Zoom) Faith Jones, Roy McCraw, Marjory Holder, Lisa Kaufmann, Leslie Billingsley

Vestry Members Absent: Buddy Fore, Joe Doswell

Others Present: Fr. Andrew Hege (Rector), Elizabeth Sudderth (Clerk), Amanda White (Treasurer)

Fr. Andrew called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.

Fr. Andrew asked for acceptance of the meeting agenda shared earlier. Doug Galke made a motion with a second from Roy McCraw to accept the agenda as presented.
The Vestry approved the motion.

Fr. Andrew requested acceptance of the minutes from the previous meeting.
Marjory Holder made a motion with a second from Patty Patella to accept the minutes as presented.
The Vestry approved the motion.

Fr. Andrew led a devotion for Early Evening.

Fr. Andrew led a gathering conversation on the Vestry Covenant approved at the last Vestry meeting. He asked for comments on the Covenant now that the Vestry has had some time to sit with the document and reflect. Some comments shared were: it is direct and to the point, a lot to live up to, hopeful we can meet the challenge, super challenging in some ways, keeping the reason we are in this work uppermost in our thoughts, Vestry is a heavy responsibility, being an example for the parish “calls us out”, didn’t

realize we are expected to welcome parishioners to Vestry meetings-good for people to know they are welcome, how to handle executive session to discuss sensitive personnel matters (Fr. Andrew answered-would go into executive session at the end of the meeting after requesting visiting parishioners to leave).

Fr. Andrew reminded the Vestry he is called to nurture the Vestry in our spiritual practices. Possible ways to help do this are to offer a bible study at Vestry meetings or other spiritual studies. He noted spiritual leaders need spiritual nourishment themselves. He stated we will work on this together over the next several months.

Other comments on the Covenant included: good that comments and suggestions brought to the Vestry from parishioners need to be open-not anonymous, this can help to cultivate the growth of new leadership in the parish.

Amanda White shared the Treasurers report.

Amanda reported income exceeded expenses in February by \$11,500. The YTD net income is \$65,000. YTD 32% of pledges have been received.

Amanda explained that restricted account # 7129-00 (Capital Improvements Holding Account) needs to be zeroed out.

Marjory Holder made a motion with a second from Doug Galke to zero out this restricted account per Amanda's recommendation.

The Vestry approved the motion.

Bob Finney made a motion to accept the Treasurers report.

Faith Jones seconded the motion.

The Vestry approved the motion.

Roy McCraw shared an update from the Planned Giving Committee.

Roy reported the committee is meeting monthly and has made much progress in their very gratifying work. Up to now, a patchwork of documents has existed. It was determined the current trust document needs to be terminated. Roy noted that Andrea Capua, the attorney who is working on the documents for the committee, is charging much less than what is customary to prepare the necessary documents.

Joann Hallmark is finalizing work on the brochure to describe the planned giving process.

Marjory Holder made a motion with a second from Doug Galke to approve the document entitled “First Amendment to the St. Mary of the Hills Episcopal Church Charitable Trust, as Amended and Restated on April 14, 2016”.

The Vestry approved the motion.

Marjory Holder made a motion to approve the termination of said trust document as amended.

Faith Jones seconded the motion.

The Vestry approved the motion.

Marjory Holder made a motion to approve the new document: “St. Mary of the Hills Episcopal Church Endowment and Investment Fund” and to approve the development of the trust and authorize the Senior Warden to execute the documents when received in their final form from the attorney.

Bob Finney seconded the motion.

The Vestry approved the motion.

Marjory Holder gave an update from the Technology Committee.

We began using the newly updated livestream system on Sunday. It appears to be working well; there was a comment to Marjory from someone who watched the livestream that the camera seemed pointed to the right.

Marjory will check on that.

Three sets of proposals for the sound reinforcement system will be reviewed by the committee; hopefully they will send a recommendation to the Vestry next month.

Fr. Andrew shared the allocations approved by the Outreach Committee this month for the Vestry’s endorsement:

World Central Kitchen: to support their efforts in several countries to feed refugees fleeing the war in Ukraine \$5,000

Doctors Without Borders: to support their efforts to provide medical care and supplies to those affected by the war in Ukraine \$2,000

Total: \$7,000

Bob Finney made a motion to approve these allocations.

Patty Patella seconded the motion.

The Vestry approved the motion.

Bob Finney shared the Junior Wardens report.

Bob shared the two quotes and proposals he has received for the site preparation work, fencing, etc. for the proposed play space area.

Bob recommends Vestry approval of the quote of \$39,556 from Mike Northern. This includes grading, a stone retaining curb, a storage building built using as many of the materials as possible from the existing shed, and a Trex fence. Details of the quote were provided to the Vestry in Bob's written report.

Doug Galke made a motion to approve the quote for the work listed from Mike Northern with the stipulation that no materials are to be ordered until the bid for the playground equipment from Chris Yang is approved.

Tim Silver seconded the motion.

The Vestry approved the motion.

There was a problem with the humidifier. A new one has been installed. Bill Stroh has been taking humidity readings and thus far the problem is fixed. Bob and Bill will continue to monitor. The organ will need to be tuned as a result of the recent problem.

Tim Silver shared the Senior Wardens report.

Tim requested from Bob an artist's rendering of the proposed play space to share with the congregation.

Tim led a discussion on ways our parish can show our support for Ukraine. There have been ideas proposed in our area such as a prayer vigil or service and Tim and other Vestry members expressed their hope for our parish to participate in any local effort.

Tim suggested the Rector's Forum be shared via Zoom or Facebook Live to reach more people.

Tim urged all Vestry members to attend a meeting on March 22 to assess the status of the Tour of Homes.

Tim shared his thoughts on the Vestry Covenant. He believes one of the most important parts of that Covenant is the commitment to participate in faithful, regular worship and the nourishment of our spiritual lives. Tim points out the many opportunities we all have to nurture and practice our faith here during this time such as Stations of the Cross. He also highly recommends the Rectors Forum. Also, the sometimes challenging call to

give sacrificially, not only of money but our time and talents can be daunting, but is part of our Covenant. Tim urged Vestry members to look carefully at their commitments and see how they can use their time to participate more fully in the many activities in our parish.

Fr. Andrew shared the Rectors report.

Andrew was happy to share the nursery will reopen on March 20. Two new nursery staff members, Sullivan Gordon and Emma McKnight, both ASU students, will welcome children to the nursery. They have already begun work cleaning and organizing the nursery to prepare for the children. The nursery area has been divided into two areas; one for babies and toddlers and one for older children.

Applications have been received from candidates for the Christian Formation Coordinator. Initial interviews are underway.

Michelle Curry has entered into a training program through the Vergers Guild of the Episcopal Church. Her course of study will continue throughout 2022 with the hope that we will formally commission her as a parish verger around Epiphany 2023.

Average Sunday attendance in February was 74 with online attendance average of 9. There were 8 Sunday Liturgies and 26 weekday Liturgies. Andrew shared his thanks to Rev. Anna Shine who filled in for him on March 13 when he was out due to illness.

Tim Silver made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:13pm.

Faith Jones seconded the motion.

The Vestry approved the motion.

Fr. Andrew shared a prayer for peace to close our meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Sudderth, Clerk of the Vestry