

The Episcopal Church of St. Martin, Davis
Vestry Meeting Approved Minutes
October 12, 2021, 7-9 pm via Zoom

Present: Stan Forbes, Sarah Conning, Julie Knudsen, Kimo Kimoeko, Bob Polkinghorn, Lisa Leigh, Jessie Ann Owens, Honna Steissberg, Chris Reynolds, Ann Liu, David Martin, Pamela Dolan, Maria Acuna Feldman, Margaret Grayden

Absent:

Guests: Molly Hillis, Diana Glick, Tim Williams, Josy Miller

Bob called the meeting to order at 7:02pm

I. Opening Prayer / Discussion of Church Cracked Open (Chapter 2)

Pamela reviewed terms introduced and defined in the book, including Euro-Tribal Churches (term from Alan Roxburgh), Empire, Colonialism, Racism, white supremacy, whiteness. She invited discussion from the group.

II. ACTION ITEM: Approval of the Draft Agenda

A motion (Forbes) to approve the draft agenda was seconded (Leigh) and passed unanimously.

III. ACTION ITEM: Approval of the Minutes of September meeting

A motion (Leigh) to approve the draft minutes of the September meeting as written was seconded (Polkinghorn) and passed with two abstentions (Forbes, Owens—not present at the meeting).

IV. REPORT: September financial statement

Julie highlighted that income is above last year and expenses are on budget. The budget committee is working on being more descriptive in expense categories; for example, new expenses like Zoom and other technology will be budgeted more precisely for 2022. She provided assurance that we are in the black. Stan added that there has been good input from ministry areas of the church and the process of budgeting for 2022 is underway.

V. ACTION ITEM: Approval of expenditures for Safety and Security

A motion (Owens) to accept the recommendation of the Buildings and Grounds committee was seconded (Reynolds) and passed with 12 in favor (Knudsen, Leigh, Owens, Reynolds, Liu, Martin, Steissberg, Polkinghorn, Acuna Feldman, Kimoeko, Conning, Dolan) and 1 opposed (Forbes).

It was noted that a line item for technology is anticipated for the 2022 budget.

VI. ACTION ITEM: Review and Approval of Revised Columbarium Policy

Jessie summarized the work accomplished by an ad hoc work group that has reviewed policies and procedures for the Columbarium. People involved in this process have been Jessie Owens (Junior Warden), Ernie Lewis, Janet Lane, Bob Holm, Pamela Dolan, and Natalie Klopfenstein. She noted that the Columbarium contains 120 niches, of which 102 have been sold and 54 have been used. The architectural plans envision a third wall that can be added when needed.

A motion (Leigh) to approve the revised policy (attached) was seconded and passed unanimously. Appreciation was voiced for the extensive work that Jessie and the ad hoc group completed. The Rector added her thanks, noting the importance of this work to the church's life and mission.

VII. Rector's Report

ACTION ITEM: Licensing of a priest associate

A motion (Leigh) to support the Rector's request to the Diocese to license Deborah Hawkins to serve as a non-stipendiary priest associate was seconded (Owens) and passed unanimously.

Debbie is a retired priest from the Diocese of CA, now returning home to Davis and settling at St. Martin's.

ACTION ITEM: Paul's Place donation

A motion (Dolan) to allocate \$5000 from Rhodes Memorial Fund for an immediate donation to Paul's Place was seconded (Leigh) and passed unanimously. Bob noted that this is separate from the recommendations related to the Matthew 25 allocation. Several people spoke in support of the motion. The current balance of Rhodes Fund is about \$11,000.

Personnel update: Pamela shared that an offer to Rev. Casey Dunsworth to be our Interim Associate Rector has been accepted and will be announced to the congregation shortly. Casey will begin later this month.

VIII. UPDATE: Stewardship

Josy Miller shared that the Stewardship Committee has rolled out a fall giving campaign with the theme of *Rooted in Faith, Growing in Hope, Reaching Out in Love*. Speakers will address each of the topics in personal testimonials during worship. Pledge cards will be going out in the mail this week, with email follow up planned. The letter will highlight that we are cultivating year-round stewardship and giving of all kinds. Ingathering is planned for November 7, the Feast of All Saints. After the ingathering, the committee is planning follow up with individual households. There will be a need and opportunity for vestry members to help with follow up telephone calls and with handwritten thank you notes.

IX. DISCUSSION: Matthew 25 and Linda Frost Fund Allocation Committee Report

Bob explained that we will be having discussion about the M25 recommendation but a vote on the recommendation is not planned at this meeting so that there is time for additional comment and input from the congregation. Members of the M25 allocation committee were present (Polkinghorn, Glick, Martin, Williams). Bob reviewed the process the allocation committee followed to generate the report. They looked at past recipients of M25 grants, specifically in light of the priorities for 2021 established the vestry including support for mission partners, organizations our members are actively engaged with, a focus on food and housing insecurity, and help for those impacted by fire and other natural disasters.

A motion (Leigh) to accept the report of the committee and authorize the Rector to communicate it to the congregation and solicit input from members in advance of a vote at November meeting was seconded (Owens) and passed unanimously.

X. DISCUSSION: Possible Ideas for Vestry candidates

Bob shared that the Nominating Committee will include Lisa, Stan, Sarah, Bob, and Jessie.

There was some initial discussion of the process and a request that vestry members give thought to potential candidates for vestry service in 2022.

XI. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

A motion (Dolan) to approve the consent agenda was seconded (Leigh) and passed unanimously.

Pamela shared that the lease has been signed for use of the Forbes Ranch.

Margaret closed the meeting in prayer

Respectfully submitted by Sarah Conning, clerk

Exhibits

Draft minutes of September 2021 meeting

September 2021 financial report

Draft Columbarium Policy

Recommendation from Buildings and Grounds concerning Security and Safety

Rector's report recommendations

2021 Matthew 25 and Linda Frost Fund Allocation Committee Report

Reports for the Consent Agenda

Buildings and Grounds Report