

The Episcopal Church of St. Martin, Davis, California

Vestry Meeting Minutes

June 20, 2022 4:30-7:00pm  
via Zoom

Present: Beth Capell, Colette Chabbott, Pamela Dolan (Rector), Ben Guthrie, Kimo Kimokeo, Ann Liu, David Martin, Chris Reynolds, Neil Willits  
Absent: Maria Acuna-Feldman, Diane Bamforth, Julie Knudsen, Honna Steissberg  
Guests: Margaret Grayden (Deacon)

Kimo called the meeting to order at 4:30pm

- I. Opening Prayer  
Pamela opened with prayer.
- II. ACTION ITEM: Approval of the Draft Agenda  
*A motion (Beth, seconded by David) to approve the draft agenda, with the postponement of the discussion of the proposed stewardship timeline (under item VII) until next month and the delay of discussion of the financial report until such time that the treasurer could join; passed unanimously.*
- III. VESTRY SPIRITUAL PRACTICE: *Church Cracked Open.*  
Pamela led the group in a discussion of the concept of “crucified classes” from Chapter 7. Vestry discussed their experience or relationships with Asian-Americans, black youth, other people of color, and people with disabilities, among others.
- IV. ACTION ITEM: Minutes of May 16 meeting  
*A motion (Pamela) to approve the draft minutes of the May 16, 2022 meeting, leaving minor edits to the rector, was seconded (Neil) and passed.*
- V. DISCUSSION: Financial reports  
The vestry noted the difficulty of interpreting the reports as provided and Neil offered in future to include comparable financials from earlier years to provide context. Vestry members were encouraged to study the financials in advance in order to be prepared with specific questions for the treasurer next month. A summary of investments for January-June will also be provided in the vestry packet for discussion next month. *A motion (Neil) to accept the April and May financial reports was seconded (David) and passed unanimously.*
- VI. DISCUSSION: Rector’s report  
The rector reviewed various personnel matters. Assistant Rector Casey Kloehn Dunsworth got a warm send-off on her last Sunday, June 12. The replacement candidate with whom Pamela had been in discussions has since accepted a full-time position and Pamela is now exploring how Betsy, the seminarian who will be doing her clinical pastoral education with us for four hours/week in the fall might be able to

help. A position description is currently being reviewed by the personnel committee and Gabe is exploring places to advertise for a replacement for our receptionist, Michael Goos, who will be departing for seminary in August. A search is also underway within the congregation to find a replacement for treasurer Julie Knudsen before she steps down in August, in order to ensure a “warm handoff”.

The rector reported on a very successful outdoor 8am service on 7/10, on the steps of the church and the lawn towards the Lych Gate, using shade structures. She said that Casey’s sermon emphasizing love was a “natural evangelism” opportunity for the neighbors passing by. Ann suggested we consider using the shade structures and chairs to create a more comfortable outdoor space for coffee hour, in order to encourage more people to linger longer after indoor services.

VII. DISCUSSION: Senior Warden’s report (Neil)

Neil will be discussing with the Stewardship Committee ways to initiate work on the 2022 Stewardship campaign earlier than last year, so that the campaign can be concluded earlier than has been the case recently. He will share his findings with vestry next month. He summarized the outcomes of the discussion of Matthew 25 grants from the previous meeting and solicited a volunteer from the vestry to serve on a committee to plan a parish-wide discussion of policies for Matthew 25 grants for 2023 and later years.

VIII. DISCUSSION: Vestry visibility/transparency

The vestry discussed staffing the vestry listening table after the 10am service, recruited volunteers to prepare the Vestry News and Reviews item following each vestry meeting, and agreed to place a printed copy of the vestry minutes in a binder in the church library for the use of those members who do not use the website. Ann offered to provide members with VESTRY labels to insert in their name badges to be worn at all church events.

IX. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

A motion (Neil, seconded by Chris) was made to accept the consent agenda, including the June Building and Grounds report, and St. Martin’s response to the 2022 Diocesan Latino/Hispanic Ministry Survey. The draft personnel manual had been made available to Vestry members in the “attachments” folder, but not in time to have members review that document. It will reappear as an item (possibly on the Consent Agenda) for the July meeting. The motion to approve the consent agenda passed unanimously.

There was no executive session.

X. Closing prayer:

Margaret closed the meeting with prayer.  
The meeting adjourned at 6:28