

Episcopal Church of St. Martin, Davis CA

Vestry Meeting Minutes

14 November 2022,

4:34-6:47pm, on Zoom

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

Absent: None

Guests: Margaret Grayden (Deacon)

I. OPENING PRAYER & SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Pamela led the vestry in an introduction to the Way of Love that will form the basis for adult formation during Advent. .

II. ACTION ITEM: Approval of the Draft Agenda

*A motion to approve the agenda (Neil), with the discussion of the "Preview of the 2023 Budget Process" moved to the end of Item IV, Stewardship, was seconded (Kimo) and passed unanimously.*

III. ACTION ITEM: Approval of draft October vestry meeting minutes.

*A motion (Maria) to approve the October minutes was seconded (Chris) and passed unanimously with one abstention (Julie, absent in October).*

IV. DISCUSSION: Stewardship 2022

Neil reviewed the initial pledge card results, highlighting that the pace at which pledge cards were coming in was similar to the last two years and though there appears to be a decrease in the total number of pledges, there has not been a proportionate decrease in the total amount pledged. The vestry briefly discussed changes in demographics of the congregation and in the church nationwide that somewhat explain these trends. The vestry also brainstormed on how to follow-up with members who pledged last year but have not yet done so this year; Neil will take the lead and will provide vestry members instructions if he needs their help. All talks given by vestry members on recent Sundays in support of stewardship have been posted on website and we should refer to them for ideas. Chris and Colette agreed to begin working on thank you notes for those who have already pledged and develop ideas for thanking pledgers in general. Pamela quickly drafted a statement that all members of the vestry, including Pamela, are committed to pledging in 2022. *A motion (Neil) to accept this statement was seconded (Beth) and passed unanimously.* Margaret offered to check with non-stipendiary clergy to see if they wanted to join the statement. Neil then led the vestry through a timeline for finishing up the 2022 Stewardship campaign and developing the 2023 budget.

V. ACTION ITEM: Financial report through October 2022

*A motion (Beth) to accept the October financial report was seconded (Kimo) and passed*

*unanimously.* Gabe will be asked to join the next Budget and Finance meeting to discuss how the vestry wants future monthly reports organized, including comparisons of year-to-date vs. budget.

VI. DISCUSSION: Rector's Housing Allowance

The discussion for this item was deferred until the Budget and Finance Committee can provide the data needed to complete the annual housing resolution form.

VII. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS: Committee reports

- Social Justice and Outreach:

Kimo reported that the Matthew 25 2022 committee is soliciting recommendations from the congregation for grantees and the 2023 committee continues organizing.

- Building and Grounds:

The Building and Grounds Committee reported a break in and vandalism of one outdoor restroom, which was reported to the police and to insurance.

- Vestry Nominations:

In addition to soliciting nominations for new vestry members, the committee is discussing how best to orient new members.

VIII. DISCUSSION: Senior Wardens' Report

The senior wardens covered their issues under other headings above.

IX. DISCUSSION: Rector's Report

The rector reminded the vestry of the four-month absence (3 months of sabbatical plus accrued vacation) she will be taking in June-July-August-September of 2023. The timing will be dependent on how clergy coverage is arranged during her absence.

X. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

*A motion (Maria) to approve the consent agenda was seconded (Beth) and passed unanimously.*

Margaret closed the meeting in prayer. The meeting adjourned at 6:47pm.