

Episcopal Church of St. Martin, Davis
Vestry Meeting Minutes
13 June 2023
7:02-9:08 PM, Parish Library

Present: Anthony Amato (Clerk), Beth Capell (Jr. Warden), Colette Chabbott, Rev. Pamela Dolan (Rector), Ben Guthrie, Kimo Kimokeo (Co-Sr. Warden), Chris Reynolds, Susan Stone, and Neil Willits (Co-Sr. Warden)

Guests: Ven. Margaret Grayden, Rev. Deborah Hawkins, Jessie Ann Owens (Treasurer)

Absent: Diane Bamforth, David Martin, Honna Steissberg, Tom Young

Vote to Approve Draft Agenda for 13 June

A motion to approve today's agenda was introduced (Susan), seconded (Colette), and passed unanimously.

Opening Prayer & Spiritual Practice

Rev. Pamela led a "Container of Your Heart" exercise whereby the Vestry was asked to visualize the contents of their hearts and to be mindful of those things which fill them.

Approval of May Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the Vestry meeting minutes for 23 May 2023 was introduced (Beth), seconded (Chris), and passed unanimously, subject to the addition of Rev. Debbie Hawkins as an attendee.

Treasurer's Report

Jessie Ann briefed the Vestry on a dialogue with Chazin & Company that had to do with making the monthly financials easier to review. The proposed changes would ultimately include simplified quarterly budget summaries that would make it easier for Vestry members to keep track of specific budget categories. The complete, unabridged budgets would still be available at the parish office for anyone who wanted to review a more detailed monthly summary. Budget & Finance would still be reviewing the monthly reports and would notify the Vestry if serious developments come up that need our immediate attention. The Vestry's executive committee would also be regularly briefed by the treasurer on the monthly financials.

A brief discussion regarding the importance of a parishwide confidentiality policy also took place. The Vestry expressed agreement that confidential information that is either disseminated or exchanged between parish committees or individual employees should be kept confidential.

ACTION ITEM: A motion to approve the treasurer's proposed confidentiality policy as recommended by the Diocese of Northern California was introduced (Chris), seconded (Beth), and passed unanimously.

Rector's Report

Upon a review of the Director of Communications Gabe Avila's Report (January-April 2023), the Vestry took time to appreciate all of the hard and excellent work done by Gabe. A great number of responsibilities are put on his shoulders, a fact that has not gone unnoticed by the Vestry.

A review of the Rector's Report followed, whereby the Vestry briefly discussed our status as a carbon-neutral church and what might come next, possibly moving towards getting off the grid with a campus battery. We could possibly also be a cooling center during extreme heat events. We also discussed the importance of turning oversight of Forbes Ranch into its own Vestry subcommittee. It has been very encouraging to see how much both parishioners and some non-parishioners have enjoyed being a part of the ranch thus far.

ACTION ITEM: A motion to create a Vestry subcommittee tasked with overseeing Forbes Ranch-related operations and affairs pending Vestry determination of specific responsibilities and number of people to be on the subcommittee was introduced (Neil), seconded (Beth), and passed unanimously.

Senior Wardens' Report/Committee Updates

Concerning Stewardship (Neil): A review of upcoming dates took place. In particular, we will be celebrating the 70th Anniversary of St. Martin's founding on 12 November 2023. We also discussed the possibility of a capital campaign for Building & Grounds in order to help cover the cost of repairing the window in the sanctuary. Until the associated costs are known, this will remain "on hold". A brief update as to the membership of our Stewardship committee followed.

Concerning Building & Grounds (Beth): the ceiling window has been scrutinized by a representative of a company that works on similar installations, but the inspection by a structural engineer has not yet occurred. Thus, no definitive cost has been determined, and a possible cost of repair won't be available until the reports of the two inspections have been received, and the two inspectors have consulted with each other. Developments regarding the outdoor living classroom as well as the trash enclosure were also discussed.

Vote to Approve Consent Agenda Items

A motion to approve the consent agenda items for this month was introduced (Neil), seconded (Colette), and passed unanimously.

Closing Prayer

Deacon Margaret led the Vestry in a closing prayer.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 9:08 PM.

Anthony G. Amato
Vestry Clerk

08/29/2023
Date