

All Saints Church Glen Rock - Vestry Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2022

Location: Offsite retreat, St. Elizabeth's Church, Ridgewood NJ

Attendance: Nancy Treacy, Sara Combs, Mike Geiger, Vivian Chan, Jason Gresh, Fred Hamble, Donna LaPorta, Kathy Polo, Kurt Reiman, Eileen Wagner, Julie Weber, Megan Findley, Mark Collins, Sue Morgan

Minutes:

Reviewed minutes from Feb meeting. Megan moved to accept, Julie seconded; motion passed.

Finance:

Reviewed accounting approach and procedures for the benefit of new vestry members.

Confirmed that traditional finance committee oversight has resumed after some pandemic changes.

Shared fund details. Discussed whether the parish may need more ongoing fundraising in future towards operating budget or is the current approach of targeted efforts to specific needs sufficient. Agreed to revisit later as part of future budgeting.

Suggested we communicate recent changes to the online giving site as an item in News and Notes.

Shared monthly financial report. Key highlights:

- Snow removal slightly over budget – more frequent snowstorms in Feb-March
- Had budgeted a loss of \$5K for the year, but an anonymous donor stepped up and covered it

Motion to accept financial report. Fred moved to accept, Donna seconded; motion passed.

Mission and Priorities:

Used the mission and priorities document from 2019 as a starting point for review and discussion.

- Agreed that the mission and priorities would remain as-is for now, given new vestry and post-pandemic situation.
- Reviewed current status of the actions proposed in 2019: some have made significant progress, others were suspended or de-prioritized due to pandemic.
- Meaningful forward progress noted in particular on Youth & Children's Education and Christian Formation; as well as successfully navigating online worship and safety/health precautions.

Discussed some potential future areas of action focus:

- Improve on sharing Vestry progress to the congregation. Start monthly ministry liaison updates to News & Notes. Can use vestry meetings to agree on items to share; Megan (as Clerk) or relevant liaison to provide content to Christine for publication.
- Expand our social media usage to share more routine updates so we highlight the vibrant activity of our parish to the public as well as provide reminders to the congregation. Jason as Comms Liaison to work on approach to this with Christine and Mark.

- Renew our push on care of creation to partner with local organizations (GREC) and to engage with youth separately from the Youth Group curriculum (to avoid conflicts) Julie to take lead on this as Care of Creation/Civic Engagement Liaison.
- Develop and execute plan for preschool space and missing preschool budget income. Laurie Geiger and Preschool Liaison Committee (Jason, Eileen, Megan) to engage on this with Rector, Treasurer and Finance Committee, with support from National Association of Episcopal Schools.

Discussed possibly developing a survey to check in with congregation about important issues, what's working and what could be improved, in order to inform future reviews of vestry mission & priorities. Suggested a May or September timing – to be revisited and decided in a future vestry meeting.

Covid Precautions:

Discussed results of recent congregation Covid precaution survey.

Aligned to a draft proposal for mask optional guidelines as prepared by Father Mark.

- Now through Easter, we will continue social distance pew arrangements and keep registration and capacity limits. Then revisit.
- We will resume coffee hour Palm Sunday, and have Easter brunch with food inside but outdoor seating.

Preschool Discussion:

Brainstormed on vestry questions about the history and future of the preschool. Questions were tracked to be covered & answered in future sessions.

Agreed that representative from National Association of Episcopal Schools will attend a future vestry meeting to provide insights and advice on our situation.

Discussed urgency of timeline if the parish wishes to re-open some form of preschool by September 2023 (likely soonest feasible.)

Highlighted the financial gap that will need to be managed - both in terms of missing preschool income line item in budget for another 2-3 years, and in terms of funding investments in renovations and personnel ahead of the expected income stream.

- *Minutes respectfully submitted by Vestry Clerk, Megan Findley*