

St. John's Episcopal Church

Vestry/Junta Parroquial

February 27, 2024

7:00pm

Present at the meeting were Mother Minerva Camarena Skeith, Deacon Victoria Mason, Vestry Members Senior Warden Brian McGiverin, Sarahi Giron, Mary Cree, Henry Welles, Patricia Mata, and Junior Warden Kevin Flegal (via Zoom), and Warinda Harris representing Central Texas Interfaith.

Mother Minerva began the meeting with a prayer. Then, Mother Minerva asked each person in attendance to share a statement of their gratitude and one of concern.

- I. Vestry Retreat
 - A. Date and Time: Vestry members discussed dates for the vestry retreat. After discussion, a general agreement was made for Sunday April 7, 3-6pm. It was also agreed to meet at St Mark's UMC, if this site is available.
 - B. Purpose: The general purpose of the retreat was discussed.
 1. Leadership development
 2. Building trust as a team
 3. Henry Welles: Concerns related to 2023 house meetings. Henry noted a rising concern among congregation members regarding mental health needs. Steve Kreichbaum at the annual parish meeting stated that the church needs to identify people in the church and community who need mental health and other types of assistance and help them connect with community resources to help meet their needs.
 - C. Agenda: Warinda Harris from Central Texas Interfaith offered to contact each participant individually for input in leadership development and building trust as a team. Mother Minerva and vestry members present agreed to meet with Harris, who will be contacting individual members prior to the retreat and lead this portion of the retreat.
- II. Approval of January 23, 2024, Vestry minutes:

Henry Welles moved to accept the January 23, 2024, minutes, the January 2024 annual parish meeting minutes, and the January 28, 2024, brief vestry minutes with minor grammatical/stylistic changes as outlined by Vestry Clerk Mary Cree. Kevin Flegal seconded this motion, which then passed by unanimous vote of all members present.
- III. Finances
 - A. Revenues for January 2024 were lower than those for December 2023 and expenses for January 2024 exceeded revenues. Mother Minerva noted that church revenues are usually seasonal, with January receipts often lower than other months and December receipts often higher due to end of the year giving.
 - B. Rental/Revenues

Senior Warden, Brian McGiverin led a discussion of ideas for fund raising, in addition to the St. John's Festival:

- 1) Brian McGiverin proposed a fund-raising walk. Patricia Mata suggested the church members could make and sell tamales – which are popular especially in December. There was also a discussion of the church rules and Texas state laws restricting raffles.
- 2) Brian McGiverin, Patricia Mata and Sarahi Giron volunteered to form a committee on fund raising and report back to the vestry. All present agreed.

IV. Buildings and Grounds

A. Parish Hall:

Junior Warden Keven Flegal has received bids for three options regarding mold abatement in the parish hall. Options A, B And C are outlined in Keven Flegal's email from this morning, February 27, 2024:

1. Option A \$7,309.05 Clean the ductwork in both the East and West Ends of the Parish Hall.
2. Option B: \$9,435 Replace all the ductwork in the West End of the Parish Hall only.
3. Option C \$2,787 Complete removal of all ductwork in the West End of the Parish Hall only and bagging it to dispose of it properly.

If we do Option C, we will remove the ductwork for \$2,787, We have \$1,523 left from our insurance Mold Cap to help pay for this, which CIC will reimburse the church after we spend it. That means St. John's Church will need to cut a check for the difference of \$1,264 to fully cover Option C. This would resolve the mold issue and let us move on to making plans to rebuild parish hall.

Henry Welles moved to approve Option C, Mary Cree seconded this motion, it was passed.

- ##### B. Architect's recommendation:
- Mother Minerva spoke with the architect regarding the process for rebuilding the Parish Hall. The architects asked, how do we want to use the building? The architects propose creating a pre-design – outlining the scope of work through church community meetings. The pre-design would cost \$7500. Mother Minerva proposed talking with dioceses regarding whether they will fund this process. Deacon Victoria Mason states she was part of a similar project at St. Christopher's Church. Mother Minerva stated the architects want to do 3 community meetings to produce conceptual designs, and a budget for rebuilding.

Mother Minerva noted that we have \$5,000 in unrestricted funds available from a gift given to the church in 2019 that we could use for this if we need to.

Mary Cree moved that we ask the dioses for funding for the \$7,500 pre-design and commit to using up to \$5,000 from the 2019 gift for the pre-design if needed in addition to diocesan funding. Brian McGiverin seconded this motion, and the motion carried.

V. Vestry Meeting Calendar

Our next vestry meeting is March 26, 2024, at 7:00pm.

Mother Minerva will send out a vestry schedule of subsequent months for review.

VI. Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.