

## Vestry Meeting Minutes

Sunday, 11/26/23, 11:30 am

**Note:** Meeting was held in person and virtually.

### Attendance

Name	Role	Present	Absent
Kurt Brunner	Senior Warden	X	
Leslie Bullitt	Stewardship		X
Heather Comerford	Preschool		X
Maggie Dunn	Secretary	X	
Patti Davis		X	
Steve Falcone	Property		X
Fr. Ernie Galaz	Rector	X	
Karen Mason	Parish Life	X	
Robert W Miller (Bob)	Liturgy & Worship	X	
Robert Miller (Rob)	Outreach	X (virtual)	
Jo Trout	Hospitality	X (virtual)	
Stephanie Untz		X	
Kate Zurick	Communications		X

### Meeting Opening

Fr. Ernie opened with prayer.

Meeting agenda approved.

October minutes approved.

### Rector's Report

- We are entering the busy part of the year starting with events we have already had – including a very successful fall festival. We are getting ready for Advent. Fr. Ernie is going to invite people to receive communion at the communion rail during Advent and there will also be a station at the front.

### Finance Report

- Church
  - o October revenues and expenses were in line with the budget. Revenue is running ahead of budget about 14% due to a contribution from the preschool. Expenses are also running 14% above budget.
  - o Pledges are mostly on target.
  - o Cash position is okay but tight as typical.
  - o We are up to date on the Diocesan pledge.

- We are currently building the budget for 2024 and will present the proposed budget in January. Pledges have been slow to come in but we hope that this picks up with the approach of the deadline.
- Geoff is also modifying the budget to make it easier to work with. Some items are net accounts – for example the school backpacks. Money comes in and goes out for one purpose. These can mess up the budget reports because the money comes in and goes to the general fund – in the future they are going to be below the line and will be tracked individually.
- Preschool
  - October on target. Full enrollment and cash position is very solid.

### Investments

- October was a difficult month. Negative return in October and YTD. LPL accounts continue to lag the benchmark, but church foundation is in line with benchmarks.
- November should post stronger returns. The market has been up and expect that will continue.

Investment	Balance	% Change YTD	% Change Month
Church Foundation (endowment)	\$331,453	2.18%	-2.09%
Mary Kuhn	\$297,1655	-2.83%	-3.11%
Memorial Fund	\$119,894	-3.35%	-3.94%

### Other Reports

#### Hospitality

- Fall festival went very well. Fr. Ernie saw more people participate and pitch in than ever before and we had several preschool families join us.

#### Brightly Asset Management

- Things are proceeding. We are out of the test phase and have moved into the actual launch.
- Plan is to roll it out more broadly in January after the annual meeting.

#### Archives

- We seem to be finding a path for ourselves that involves more history rather than just ongoing documentation. Several people are very interested in church history, especially Gregg Smith.
- We have made a commitment to the adult forum to do an exercise in February where we will make a long paper timeline of the church that people can add things to.

#### Adult Forum

- Rob is going to be asking people for ideas and Laurie Weber has been in touch with folks to think through our service opportunities this year. This will include food gift cards for the second-time-around grandparents.

### Old and New Business – Discussion of By-laws

- Article 4 Section 1: made it clear that Vestry members can serve again after two terms, just not consecutively.
- Article 4 Section 6: Discussion of Vestry members liability. Made it clear that liability will be limited based on Pennsylvania law.
- Article 5 Section 1.1: Definition of standing and special committees adjusted. Generally – standing committees are explicitly in bylaws or canons including finance and property.
- Article 5 Section 1.3: Rector will be ex-officio member of each committee – have the option to sit in on meetings but not required. At annual meeting, we will commission standing committees each year.
- Article 5 Section 2.3: Vestry reviewed and are satisfied with wording related to reporting about investments and funds.
- Article 5 Section 3: Vestry agree to change the name of the “Junior” Warden to “Operations” Warden.
- Article 5 Section 3: Add the oversee and maintenance of the memorial garden to the property committee.
- Article 7 Section 2.1 and Section 2.2: Vestry approved the clarified wording and language changes regarding the role of the Treasurer.
  - o Article 7 Section 2.2e: adding language regarding the parochial report
- Article 8: Clarified what “under seal” means.
- Article 6 Section 2: Treasurer’s Register – Vestry approved striking the language regarding Treasurer and the Rector preparing a register of members qualified to vote.
- Article 11 Section 1: Financial Obligations – Incorporated new language that prevents any individual from entering a contract on behalf of the corporation. Vestry agreed on the dollar value of \$2,500 as the limit to which people can enter contract without notifying the Vestry.

December – we had previously agreed to meet on 12/17 which is the day of the greening. We are going to cancel that meeting. In place of that we are going to host a zoom meeting around that time.

Annual Meeting Date: January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024. We will have a Vestry meeting the previous Sunday, January 21, 2024.

### Affirmations

- Ashley Steinhauer for Messy Church.
- Jo Trout for a fantastic job running the Fall Festival.
- For the Youth Group for all their participation in recent events, from Messy Church to the Fall Fest and beyond.

### Closing Prayer and Dismissal

Meeting adjourned at 12:24 pm.