



St Margaret's Episcopal Church Vestry

Subject: Minutes 19 February 2019 DRAFT

Attending: Peter Mayer (Rector), Patti Sachs (Assistant Rector), Paul O'Donnell (Senior Warden), Charlie Lang (Treasurer), Jim Barnett (Clerk), Cory Green, Luke Morgan, Barbara Friedman, Gwen Davis, Sarah Westcott, Phil Graham, Brian Williams, Rex Pingle, Al Todd.

Absent: Steve Brennan (Junior Warden), Stacia Bontempo, Maggy Cullman

Prior to the meeting, Sarah Westcott handed out a St Margaret's Day School (SMDS) Fact Sheet (attached) in preparation for the SMDS Silent Auction

1. Opening prayer was given at 7pm by The Rector.
2. The minutes from the January meeting were approved as amended. The presence of a quorum was noted.
3. Peter+ welcomed incoming class of Vestry members and asked each to say a few words on their background and expectations as new members.

4. Submitted Reports

A. Rector's Report – Peter Mayer+ (report attached)

We continue working towards the Lenten Season and the upcoming "Wedding Season."

While in the middle of the Formation Year, the Church seems to have a little different feel.

Work continues on the effort to understanding the level of financial support that the church offers to the day school. Peter+ expects the work of his group to be completed soon and he will be able to bring to the Vestry a small range that the day school and the church can agree upon, that quantifies SMC's level of support

B. Treasurers Report – Charlie Lang (report attached)

Charlie reviewed the format for his monthly report to the Vestry.

It was noted that the construction loan is at \$200,000 and the Formation Building Savings line is \$86,723.33.

MOTION: That \$80,000 be used to pay down the construction loan and lower SMC's interest payment. Moved, seconded, and carried unanimously.

A question was raised regarding the Snow Removal Budget. The snow removal last month cost \$3,800, the budgeted amount for the year is \$3500. SMDS paid for snow removal when we had the large funeral on Friday a few weeks ago. SMDS and SMC partner on snow removal costs and partner in closing the campus for inclement weather. It was noted that when county schools open two hours late, the campus opens at 10 AM.

C. Anne Arundel Connecting Together (AACT) – Peter Myer +

The Rector then asked Dalyn Huntley to join the Vestry in a discussion about AACT. Dalyn is a well-known and highly respected member of SMC and has been involved with AACT from another organization for some time. She, our clergy, and members of our congregation have been engaged in this community forum and the Vestry needs to get a sensing of the conversation and commitment.

AACT (sometimes referred to as ACT) is affiliated with the broader Industrial Areas Foundation, the nation's largest and longest-standing network of local faith and community-based organizations.

There is a joining allocation for membership of \$2,000 with additional anticipated contributions from member organizations. Several larger churches have offered the minimum this year, and several smaller churches have exceeded the requested 1% figure.

The AACT is not just about money however, it takes involvement and engagement by members to make it work. In addition to organizational contributions, there are ongoing fund-raising events.

Money committed to AACT primarily covers the cost of training individuals for engagement with groups and one on ones. There are several sub groups that make up the greater whole and training is required within each sub group.

There were several questions and issues raised with respect to SMC joining AACT. Continued research and review will be required to optimize engagement to meet our congregational objectives.

MOTION: The sense of the Vestry to support the Mission Commissions existing commitment of \$2,000 to effect SMC membership in AACT. Moved, seconded and passed after discussion unanimously.

Vestry agreed that there would be no expenditure of funds above \$2,000 as already approved in the Missions Commissions budget for this effort without Vestry approval. While the synergy with other churches and not-for-profit organizations is understood, funding and consistency with objectives requires further review. Review and discernment will be ongoing.

D. Buildings and Grounds report – Phil Graham and Al Todd. (report attached)

Thanks to Elizabeth and Jim Bowersox's diligence in keeping up with routine upkeep and charging into emergent issues, we have reached a steady state and the campus looks great.

Al Todd presented the current SMC Maintenance and Capital Improvement Plan. This is a dynamic document that will be maintained by the B&G Commission but is available from the Chair at any time. This document will be the foundation for planning into the future. It is not yet prioritized against the budget or imperative but will be at the next B&G meeting. It should be noted that requirements do exceed available funds so prioritizing will be important.

Al noted that the B&G Commission approved the expenditure of funds for execution by Rev Sachs+ for initial safety features including glass portals on the sanctuary front doors and restraints for non-panic access doors that can be deployed by ushers as needed.

There was additional discussion regarding solar panel use and potential expansion. Review for potential future expansion is ongoing.

The status of the Rental House and options for its future with SMC were presented and reviewed. It was noted that no decision can be made by SMC without first receiving permission from the Dioceses Standing Committee. This will be requested.

MOTION: That a maximum of \$30,000 be withdrawn from the Endowment to cover costs associated with bringing the Rental House up to move-in ready with the intention to sell. Funds obligated from the Endowment will be returned upon sale or rental. Moved, seconded, fully discussed, and passed unanimously.

E. Junior Warden's report – Steve Brennan (attached)

F. Senior Warden's report – Paul O'Donnell (attached)

The Senior Warden expressed his desire to keep the energy that we have with Asbury Broadneck United Methodist Church (ABUMC) to sustain our engagement with their congregation that has been ongoing since 2017.

Discussed Winter Relief opportunities for the Vestry at both ABUMC and SMC in March.

5. For the Good of the Order

The Rector discussed near term experiences with Stewardship that need to be remembered in future. Specifically, some congregants assume that their pledge for last year's stands into the new year. This is not the case; each pledging year is independent of the last. He reviewed a couple of options that he is pursuing to increase both the pledge membership and dollar total. He is also working an initiative to add to the Capital Campaign for new members who may have missed the opportunity before they joined SMC. It was noted that Staff continues to work on software that will facilitate the pledging objectives next year.

The Treasurer wanted to be sure that new Vestry members were familiar with their Vestry books that were handed out at this meeting. Specific attention was drawn to the By Laws and their responsibilities under those statutes.

The Rector asked Gwen Davis to head up the search committee for potential Vestry candidates for the next slate. Her Committee will include her Vestry class. It was recalled that the Senior Warden continues to occupy a voting Vestry seat and this could be made available if a candidate was evident who could fill a near term requirement.

The Assistant Rector reminded the Vestry liaisons that their reports should include Laura and Elizabeth when submitted. It was also reflected that anyone who wanted a hard copy needed to inform the originator and it would be available at the beginning of the meeting.

Three members of the Vestry will be engaged in the Tanzanian trip and not be in attendance at the March Vestry meeting. To sustain a quorum, the other members need to attend the meeting.

6. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned with the singing of the Doxology at 8:50 PM.

The next regular meeting will be Tuesday March 19, 2019, at 7 PM, in the Formation Building classroom E. This meeting will include a report from the Formation Commission liaison.

Faithfully,

Jim Barnett

SMC Clerk



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BG Report to
Vestry_2 2019_final.



Rector's Report
February 2019.docx



RPC - final paper to
Vestry[8632] (1).docx



Senior Warden
report February.doc



SMC Junior Warden
Report 02 19 2019.p



SMDS fact sheet
final in word.docx