

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting Minutes
September 20, 2020

Opening Devotion: The Rev. Elizabeth Gardner called the meeting to order at 11:35 a.m. via Zoom video conference and led the Vestry in prayer.

Present: Jim Bailes, Rob Bluey, Eric Bryda, Charlotte Brown, Francisco Escobar, the Rev. Elizabeth Gardner, Mary Jane Stockstill, David Walton. **Absent:** Belinda Appiah, Nihal Masih. **Guest:** Pam Hamrin, Tracy Tienken.

Certificates of Election for 2020 Annual Convention: Jim Bailes will represent St. Mark's as a delegate to the Diocese of Virginia's Annual Convention and David Walton will serve as an alternate delegate.

Mary Jane Stockstill made the motion, Jim Bailes seconded, and the Vestry voted to approve.

Outdoor Holy Eucharist Worship: Rev. Elizabeth Gardner announced that Bishop Susan Goff has approved a request from St. Mark's to hold Holy Eucharist outdoors. Rev. Elizabeth is soliciting ideas from the Vestry and congregation for next steps.

Senior Warden's Report: Fairfax County recently inspected the rain garden near the Gibson Hall entrance. James and Jim Bailes are doing work to improve the drainage and to ensure St. Mark's is in compliance. Jim thanked Charlotte Brown and Bonnie Wilkins for their assistance with the project and their help with furniture moves in the building.

St. Mark's is compensating Rev. Elizabeth for "out of pocket" expenses for health insurance provided by her husband. This is resulting in a significant savings for St. Mark's (\$1,000 per month vs. \$3,000 per month).

Junior Warden's Report: David Walton said St. Mark's needs to complete its fire inspection and will coordinate a meeting at the church for September 26. The fire extinguisher inspection will take place September 28. Mr. Walton said St. Mark's signed a cleaning contract with R&P Cleaning (a company run by Francisco Robles) through the end of 2020.

Treasurer's Report: Eric Bryda reported that St. Mark's has an operating surplus of \$24,635.81 through August 2020. For the month of August, St. Mark's had revenue of \$40,475.02 and expenses of \$19,025.36. This is due in part to a large bequeath from a parishioner at The Fairfax. Mr. Bryda said St. Mark's had projected a deficit of 19,966.72 through August. *Rob Bluey made the motion, Charlotte Brown seconded, and the Vestry accepted the report.*

2021 Diocesan Pledge: The Diocese of Virginia is requesting St. Mark's 2021 pledge, approximately 10% of our annual budget. The Vestry agreed to pledge \$10,000 for 2021. In a related discussion about 2020 pledges, the Vestry agreed that St. Mark's would fulfill its pledge

obligations for the Diocese, Potomac Episcopal Region, and United Community through September and then make monthly contributions to each entity thereafter.

Music for Potomac Episcopal Service: St. Mark's will contribute \$1,111 per month through the end of 2020 to cover the costs of Darrell Rison's work for the Sunday services.

Technology for Streaming Services: Francisco Escobar is planning to purchase a WiFi router box and an internet switch for \$379.46 to provide connectivity to people in the church during services. Freddy Castellanos will do the work for \$175. He will run a cable through the ceiling in the lobby from the copier machine area to the wall inside the sanctuary across the entrance door and at the top of the wall.

Serving at St. Mark's: Rev. Elizabeth said there are many new and interesting ways to serve St. Mark's. She encouraged the Vestry to reach out to other parishioners so they stay connected during COVID-19.

Adjournment: The Rev. Elizabeth Gardner offered a closing prayer. Rob Bluey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:50 p.m., David Walton seconded, and the Vestry voted to adjourn.

Email approval on September 21, 2020: Rob Bluey made a motion to accept the minutes, Francisco Escobar seconded, and the Vestry voted to approve.