

MINUTES OF THE 113TH ANNUAL MEETING OF ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

January 21, 2018

Call to Order – During a catered lunch provided through the Hospitality budget, Father Stephen Rhoades called the meeting to order and opened the meeting with prayer.

Certification of Quorum & Appointment of Tellers – A total of 125 persons, including 84 voting members, were in attendance. A quorum was reached. Fr. Stephen appointed Dena Veazey and the retiring vestry class as tellers for voting.

Minutes of Previous Meeting – George Lafaye moved that the minutes of the 112th Annual Meeting held on January 22, 2017 be approved as printed. Pauline Kelley seconded. Passed.

Nominations of Vestry Members – A slate of four candidates was presented to serve three-year terms and one to fill the final year of a vacated term for Vestry. Katie Allen moved to open nominations from the floor. Christi Jones McNeill seconded. Passed. No names were offered. Kate Kaup moved that nominations be closed. Kathy Walsh seconded. Passed.

Nominations of Diocesan Convention Delegates – A slate of three names was presented to fill the four Diocesan Convention Delegate positions for 2018. Jerome Gorman moved to open nominations from the floor. Reb Mitchell seconded. Passed. Jerome Gorman volunteered to fill the fourth slot. Christi Jones McNeill moved that nominations be closed. Kathy Walsh seconded. Passed.

Voting – Judy Armandroff moved that the voting be done by acclamation. Rick Veazey seconded. Passed. The five candidates for Vestry were elected by acclamation. They are Moira Allen, Al Geiger, Monte Hudson, and Sam Lyons for three-year terms and Alice Littlejohn for one year to complete the vacated term. The four candidates for Diocesan Convention were elected by acclamation. They are Clay Allen, Laura Brown, Gail Burch and Jerome Gorman.

Parish Administrator's Report – Dena Veazey reported that St. James membership grew in 2017 despite the large number of faithful, longtime parishioners who had passed away over the past year. Seven of the ten categories in the breakdown of parishioners by age had increased.

Reports of St. James Commissions and Ministries – Complete reports from the Staff, Wardens, Commission Chairs and other leaders of St. James' ministries are printed in the Book of Reports. These give a snapshot of what has been happening at St. James.

- St. James Men's Group – Ron Kelley reported that the men were attempting to revitalize the group which had been so active in years past and thanked those who had kept things going. He asked all the men to complete a survey to help them plan for the future and more clearly define the role of the Men's Group at St. James. He also invited the men to attend the next meeting.

- Sam Lyons introduced himself, because his biographical information was not printed in the report book with the other vestry nominees. Sam has been Episcopalian since 1957 and a member of St. James since 2016. He spent 32 years working in Human Resources.
- The Gathering – Gail Burch reported that this group which ministers to parishioners and friends age 60 and better meets for lunch and a program on the first Tuesday of the month. Pamphlets outlining the program topics for the next four months were made available. There was also a survey to provide feedback on other topics of interest.

2017 Treasurer's Report – Fr. Stephen thanked the Finance Committee for their work throughout the year monitoring the finances of the church and making recommendations to the vestry. Income in 2017 exceeded what was projected and expenses were lower which produced a surplus of \$42,714. The church continues to make monthly payments to replace the money borrowed from several of the restricted funds in 2016. That comes to \$9,000 a year which should be subtracted from the surplus.

Presentation of the 2018 Draft Budget – The preliminary budget for 2018 was based on historical trends and actual expenses. Pledge Income was raised to \$500,916. The Diocesan Contribution expense was kept at 80% of the asking and the amount set aside for Strategic Reserve was raised in anticipation of several expensive projects. Some of the HVAC units are nearing the end of their life expectancy.

Rector's Report – Fr. Stephen expressed what a blessing it is to be at St. James and what a year it has been! In December he celebrated his 50th birthday and his 10th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood. This year also marked the 10th anniversary of the installation our Gober pipe organ. He recognized each member of the staff and thanked them for their contributions to the life and ministries at St. James. His complete report is printed in the book of reports.

In Memorium – Fr. Stephen presented a video slideshow remembering the many parishioners who had passed away in 2017.

Recognition of Retiring Vestry Members – Fr. Stephen thanked the outgoing vestry class—Gail Burch, Jennifer Jerina (in absentia), Christi Jones McNeill and George Lipscomb—for their faithful leadership and service. He announced that a donation in their honor had been made to Education Equals Hope for scholarships to children in Ecuador. Senior Warden George Lipscomb thanked Fr. Stephen for his ministry among us this past year and the parish expressed their appreciation. Fr. Stephen thanked Anna and their children for the sacrifices and demands which are placed on them daily as the family members of a priest.

Old Business

Stephen Mitchell Porch – In 2017 the renovation of the front entrance was completed. The St. James Memorial Garden was renovated and the columbarium installed. At his Episcopal Visitation on July 31, 2017, Bishop Waldo blessed the Stephen Mitchell Porch and the St. James Memorial Garden.

New Business

- Tina Boyd thanked the adult volunteers who have helped with the children's ministry.
- Ileana Shaner, vestry liaison to St. Francis, reported that the relationship between our two congregations was renewed by the shared meal and service on the first night of Las Posadas and hoped it could become a tradition. On behalf of the St. Francis congregation she expressed their gratitude for the financial, emotional and spiritual support which St. James offered during Fr. Robert Taylor's recent surgery and recuperation.

Closing – Fr. Stephen closed the meeting with prayer and the singing of the Doxology.

Meeting Date for 114th Annual Meeting will be January 27, 2019.

Respectfully submitted by Dena Veazey, Parish Administrator