

St Alban's Vestry Meeting Minutes
March 19, 2024 5:00pm

Members Present: (ALL) David Baker, Bill Barlow, Jessica Field, Bob Gallerani, Tom Hines, Laura Kemp, Creston King, Dottie Lewis, Fr. Richard Mallory, Ed Morton, John Munger, Lynette Patton, Randy Trimble Guest: Bob Swift

- I. Opening Prayer, 5pm - Dave Baker
- II. Check in
- III. Approval of Minutes of February Meeting - motion to approve, with amendment by Laura Kemp to update Dave Dutra's kneeler project; seconded and passed.

- IV. Rector's input - Father Richard Mallory
Fr Richard expressed thanks for the approval of the pension increase.

Possible interest in an outdoor chapel, i.e. "Church in the Wild"
Discussion was continued by Bill Barlow about a possible outdoor service in Sabino with the idea of drawing people into something different. Tom Hines suggested signage changes to attract motorists along Sabino Canyon Road.

Proposal for a Vestry Retreat weekend or overnight to include work on a Vestry covenant; information coming. Jessica Field volunteered to check venues.

- V. Treasurer's report - Ed Morton
Integration of the Preschool finances into St. Alban's financials continues with some difficulty due to peculiarities of the CDM+ accounting system. Discussions with Matt Frey, CPA, have indicated that an informal audit will occur sometime in June.

For budget purposes, the monthly comparison has adopted the Preschool budget projections as the database for 2024. Creston motioned to approve and it was seconded.

- VI. Search Committee Report
Bob Swift updated the Vestry that the next Search Committee meeting is scheduled for April 18. At that time, the committee hopes to receive candidate names to review. Bob encouraged the Vestry to begin thinking of questions now to ask the candidates, and mentioned that Canon Anita said she would educate the Vestry.

- VII. Endowment plan update explanation - Bob Swift
An endowment overview was explained. The plan is for a quarterly update to begin at the next meeting in April.

VIII. Other Business

Laura Kemp mentioned the need for new acolyte cassocks and robes. She would like to initiate a grant for the expenditure. Jessica Field volunteered to help Laura write the grant.

There is an Easter egg hunt scheduled on Easter Sunday.

Tom Hines would like the next newsletter to contain the parishioners who have already made a pledge. Lynette Patton suggested that personal thank you notes be sent individually. That might have a bigger impact. Kristen Flocco has the names and addresses of the pledges she has received.

John Munger suggested a cost of living increase (currently 3.2%) for clergy and organist. Should it be across the board or merit? It is a policy discussion for a later time.

XI. Preschool report

The most recent Boots & BBQ event was a success. There was a cake walk and silent auction; all items were sold or won. The figures are not yet in.

X. Junior Warden report - Bob Gallerani

Landscape Update:

Phase 2 is nearing completion, more plants are being installed. Four large vases with plants have been placed in the covered walkway area. The plants were donated by Margie Matter.

The Courtyard will be next. The washout on the walkway leading to the Stations of the Cross area will be fixed soon with concrete lining with larger and smaller rock.

Tree Problem: A neighbor on the south boundary line complained about the mistletoe in our trees near her property. A meeting with the Production Manager of Landtamers Landscaping Company was on 3/18/24 to review the problem of six trees needing work. Five can be trimmed but one is dying and needs to be removed. A job estimate will be sent.

XI Senior Warden report - Creston King

A thank you to Fr Richard for agreeing to have a Vestry Spring Social again.

Creston brought up the need to have a Vestry retreat. He requested thoughts on what it should contain and if it should be overnight. The last retreat was three years ago. The group was asked to help with individual/partner roles, and interests in the following suggestions from Bob Swift:

1. A day long annual retreat with a social event on the previous night. The goal is for introducing new members.
2. Development of a 5 Year Vision for St. Alban's

3. Consideration of each vestry member becoming a “liaison” and have regularly reporting responsibility in the following areas:

- endowment
- outreach
- building and grounds
- music
- worship
- preschool
- treasurer
- stewardship chair
- website

4. With an occasional exception, the ideal goal is that the vestry “liaison” is part of a committee, not the chair or leader. Lay parishioners are the leaders of these committees. The goal is to have vestry representation, and that the Rector and Vestry are proactively kept up-to-date on all parts of ongoing church activities.
5. The overall “job” of the vestry is to hire a Rector, let him/her successfully run the church, and make sure that all the support and (reasonable) resources are available.

XII Closing prayer 6:15pm

Respectfully submitted,
Terri Franks