

St. Mark's Council Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2018

Attending Council Members: Jim Huber, Senior Warden; Sarah Nowlin, Junior Warden; Greg Youtz, Treasurer; Iris Key, Clerk; Paul Anton, Michael Arthur, Lola Brown, Richard Helling, Melody Herbst, Sten Johnson, Dwayne Purrington, Paul Settle, Emmanuel Wilson

Clergy: Very Rev. Paul Lebens-Englund

Staff: Carrie Thomas

Guests: Martha Hoover, Paul Lakeman

Jim Huber called the meeting to order at 5:37pm.

Mary Farrell led opening prayers.

Check-in

Richard Helling updated the council on pledges: \$819,685 total pledges for 2018, including over \$5,000 from 11 pledgers who used the Tithe.ly app.

Minutes

Jim Huber presented minutes from previous meeting, previously distributed via email. MOTION to accept minutes from Council meeting on December 22: M/S Dwayne Purrington, Michael Arthur. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Reports

MOTION to accept receipt of minutes from officers, committees, and commissions. M/S Michael Arthur, Richard Helling. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Treasurer's Report

MOTION to accept Greg Youtz's Treasurer's Report, previously circulated via email. M/S Sarah Nowlin, Lola Brown. 2017 closed with a balanced budget. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

2018 Budget: Discussion and final approval

Greg Youtz updated council on 2018 Budget as amended by the Finance Committee since its presentation in December 2017. MOTION to approve updated, final budget: M/S Greg Youtz, Sarah Nowlin. Approved by unanimous voice vote. Dean Paul reflected on the challenges of preparing the budget and thanked Greg for his attention to detail and shepherding of diverse interests.

Governance Committee Report

Michael Arthur summarized the Governance Committee's process, detailed in the report. MOTION to table the currently pending constitutional amendment, reducing the Council to 9 members, until the December 2018 council meeting. M/S Michael Arthur, Paul Anton. Discussion of the ramifications of the motion, including the possibility of electing enough people to council that would raise the number of members to far more than 9.

Discussion of the purpose of the council and how to measure its success; James Huber, Greg Youtz, Lola Brown, and Mary Farrell shared thoughts on how a smaller group of committed leaders could be more effective than a larger group of less committed congregants.

Lola Brown noted that an efficient leadership body would also be representative of the larger congregation; a larger group is not necessarily more representative.

Mary Farrell shared support for a smaller group of engaged leaders.

Paul Anton asked, if the motion is carried, that council determine how to collect data and evaluate how to determine whether the larger council size is better than the smaller council.

Discussion of the importance of council members delegating to their committees, commissions, and other congregants would be an important skill with a smaller council size.

Discussion of concern about informing the congregation of the constitutional amendment, if it is

approved.

Motion carried by majority show of hands (8 in favor, 2 opposed).

Gift acceptance committee report

Report that Richard Helling donated a 2-year-old Apple computer, accepted by the gift acceptance committee.

Vote to approve new members of the St. Mark's Foundation

2018to accept Cindy Lennie and Fred Moore as new members of the St. Mark's Foundation. M/S Greg Youtz, Michael Arthur. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Vote to approve delegates to the 2018 Diocesan Convention

MOTION to approve delegates attending the diocesan convention in Mankato in September 14-15, 2018: Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Minnie Steele, Brian Childs, Lola Brown. M/S Michael Arthur, Paul Settle. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Important dates, thank yous, and celebrations

Jim Huber thanked council for their support over his two years as Senior Warden.

Dean Paul shared that City of Bells, a nondenominational group of bell aficionados, asked St. Mark's to consider serving as the site of a display of 81 carillons; City of Bells would be a primary funder of the project. MOTION to accept City of Bells' structural inspection of the bell tower to determine whether it would support the display. M/S Sarah Nowlin, Michael Arthur. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Dean Paul thanked Mary Farrell for her attentiveness and care as chaplain; Dwayne Purrington, for his work on council and acceptance of the role as chaplain; and Jim Huber, for his leadership and partnership over the past two years as senior warden.

Mary Farrell led closing prayers.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:54pm.