

**St. Mark's Council Meeting Minutes**  
**April 20, 2017**

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

Attending Clergy: Very Rev. Paul Lebens Englund, Rev. Siri Hauge Hustad

Attending Staff: Pat Betsinger

Guest: Danielle Clark

Jim Huber called the meeting to order at 5:33pm.

Dwayne Purrington led opening prayers.

**Minutes**

Jim Huber presented minutes from previous meeting. MOTION to accept minutes from Council meeting on March 16, 2017: M/S Greg Youtz, Matthew Brown.

Amendment to minutes: addition of vote count: 8 votes against motion, 7 in favor. Removal of Paul Anton from attendance. Amended minutes approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Outreach Report**

Danielle Clark, Outreach Coordinator, announced that St. Mark's has initiated a conversation with CityHouse, a nonprofit dedicated to spiritual listening, exploration, and companionship. St. Mark's is exploring a potential partnership involving spiritual listening and onsite ministry; MOU to come.

**Welcoming Commission Report**

Jeff Bullington reported on strained budget for Sunday morning welcoming refreshments; previous source of donated food is no longer available, and budget does not allow for weekly purchase. Plan to begin an experiment with inviting freewill offerings at refreshments table.

**Property Committee Report**

Council is invited to participate in Cathedral clean-up day on May 6, focusing on maintenance of the grounds.

**Treasurer's Report**

Current operating revenue and expenses are as expected; legal fees are currently ongoing. MOTION to accept report, M/S Richard Helling, Michael Arthur. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Dean's Report**

Council signatures requested for the recommendation of Amelia Arthur and Mary Farrell for candidacy. Both nominees approved by unanimous voice vote.

Holy Week and Easter attendance continued to trend upwards in 2017.

**1730 Clifton Update**

White Earth Nation purchased the property at 1730 Clifton from ECMN. SMEC and White Earth Nation will meet to discuss use of parking.

**Litigation Update**

Depositions to come in May, after St. Mark's has extended numerous offers to settle the lawsuit.

Depositions are to include, but are not limited to, Dean Paul Lebens-Englund, Jim Huber, Brian Myers, and Kathleen Murphy. Episcopal Homes chose to mediate in October.

**Budget Discussion**

Greg Youtz presented Finance Committee's suggestions of ways to balance budget after ECMN payment and legal fees. Overview of historical revenue and expenses, including significant operating deficit created in 2013. Potential opportunities for revenue growth:

- Special event parking: Proposal that a volunteer would plan and coordinate, while volunteers or contracted labor work at the parking lot. Youth ministry has first right of refusal for parking lot duty. Dean Paul suggested exploring commercial or automated parking.
- Weddings: Revenue decreased from 2012 to 2016; Council discussed this as only a possible source in the long term, due to significant ministry needs

Request that budget needs be disseminated to the congregation.

MOTION for Stewardship Committee to pursue increasing unallocated parking revenues in 2017. M/S Paul Anton, Constance Shey. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

### **Announcements**

Safe Church Training in May and October, required for all Council members.

Discussion of the terms of a major gift from anonymous donor.

The GLBTQ Ministry will change its name to "Pride in St. Mark's...It's Not Just a Parade." Shortened name: Pride IN. Will be announced at formation hour on May 14.

Paul Anton announced his home was awarded Edina preservation award; invitation to summer event.

Dwayne Purrington led closing prayer.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:23.