

All Saints' Parish Beverly Hills
Minutes of the Meeting of the Vestry on January 22, 2019

Attendees: Clergy: Bob Dannals
Vestry: Chris Cook, Marissa Flaxbart, Lisa Holguin, Susan Humphreville, Gerrie Maloof, Dennis McGuckian, Sydney Nichols, Maggie Reid, Gary Roberts, Ken Sulzer
Excused: Theresa Amy, Bob Craft
Staff: Liz Ladizinsky and Jennifer Hill

Meal: Dennis McGuckian

Minutes: Gary Roberts

Sydney Nichols called the meeting to order at about 7:30pm, following a Eucharist celebrated in honor of those rotating off the Vestry (more on that below).

Lisa Holguin led the group in an opening prayer reflecting on MLK.

Ken Sulzer led a study on the message of Paul.

The December minutes were approved.

Rector's Report:

- Bob reported that 30 pilgrims traveled to the Holy Land over the holidays and had an amazing experience. Sydney and Phil Nichols will be doing a Sages lunch to share their stories as well as their photographs, and stand by for an announcement about a similar sharing time on a Sunday morning. For those who feel left out after hearing about the trip, Bob encouraged all to go the next time the pilgrimage rolls around in a couple of years. Finally, Bob thanked Nat, Will, and the staff for the great job they did of holding down the fort during his absence.
- All Saints' finished the year very strong in every way, and Epiphany has likewise been great. There's lots of good energy, all the numbers are up, and there is great momentum ahead of the new rector. We just had seven baptisms and an amazing visit by Tracey Lind, and both Bishop Taylor and Bishop Diane Bruce will be with us in the next couple of weeks. Meanwhile, the focus is also on getting ready for Lent--the services, the programs, the forums, and the like. It will continue to be a busy time in the parish.
- Bob also took a moment to thank the departing members of the Vestry: Maggie, Bob and Sydney. He said each time new members come on board, they bring all their gifts with them; that has certainly been true with this class. But now, Bob said, as they move on to make way for others, they also leave all their gifts. Our

parish therefore benefits from the new gifts of those joining the Vestry, but also gets to keep those the departing members leave behind.

- Bob also called out Sydney for special thanks for her service as Senior Warden during a critical time in the life of our community. Describing Sydney not only as a workhorse but as having both heart and mind in unusual measure, Bob said she is at the very top of the list of all the wardens with whom he has served during his many years of ordained ministry.

Financial Report: Susan Humphreville gave a brief overview of the November financials, the last month for which they were available at the time of the meeting. Income was very strong at almost \$1.8m, 8.8% over budget and more than 6% over last year. Pledge income was also up nicely. Although the statement shows a loss of some \$213k through that November period, that loss was seasonal. We finished very strong, and Susan will have the final financials at the annual meeting.

Stewardship Update: Liz Ladizinsky gave an update on pledges for 2019. We have a total of 264 pledges, consisting of 246 repeat pledges and 18 new ones. To date, the total is just over \$1.2 million, but there is another \$96,796 in low hanging fruit from individuals who have yet to renew. Once we get those dollars in, our shortfall from budget will be about \$54,523. We are discussing strategies on how to bridge that gap.

Approvals requested by Finance Committee: Susan Humphreville presented two matters from the Finance Committee, which requested approval of each (both are attached). The first was a resolution relating to the annual withdrawal of funds from the Endowment. Consistent with the policy that short term debt should be paid off in the next fiscal year, the recommendation was that approximately 3% of the year-end balance, that is, \$75k, be withdrawn to pay off the short-term debt, leaving a small amount for working capital. The Vestry approved that resolution. The second requested approval of an investment policy statement, which largely restates existing policy with a few “clean-up” changes. The statement needed to be reworked in light of the desire to create a restricted endowment (i.e., for music), but is otherwise the same policy as we have used in the past. The Vestry approved that statement as well.

Search Process Update: Sydney Nichols informed the Vestry that the Search Committee has seven finalists, and the process is under way to reduce that number to three. March 2, 2019 is when the Vestry will meet with the search committee to present us with the three final candidates. At that point, the Vestry will begin a time-intensive, three-week process to learn more about the three finalists. Chris Cook has laid out a schedule of what that will look like, which will be further refined in the next couple of weeks. We will meet on March 23 to discern which of the three will be our new rector. Bob’s last day will be Easter.

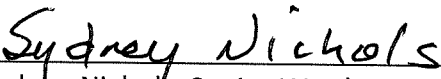
Administrative Report: Lisa Holguin and Jennifer Hill updated the Vestry on a number of matters. New carpet has been ordered for the narthex, and it should be installed soon. Tree roots are cracking the foundation in the courtyard, and it will probably require tree removal. That issue is being carefully looked into. A plumbing issue in the rectory has been addressed.

The playground chips have been replaced. The parish kitchen has been given a deep clean. The parish is getting a new phone system and new room scheduling software, as well as changing the payroll system to ADP. "Safety Sunday" is being organized, probably for February 17. The team is also looking into organizing a volunteer church beautification day.

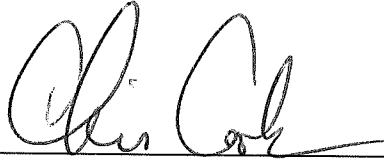
New business: Sydney announced that an anonymous donor had made an unrestricted gift of \$1 million. We will obviously give careful consideration to identifying our priorities and discerning the best possible use of that money.

The Vestry then proceeded to elect Gary Roberts as the next Senior Warden, effective at the end of the annual meeting on February 24. After some discussion, the Vestry decided to hold its next meeting after the 10 am service on that same day, February 24.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm.



Sydney Nichols, Senior Warden



Chris Cook, Clerk