



The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist
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Vestry Minutes for The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist
June 16, 2021 – Zoom Meeting

Present: Jill Malloy, Sharon Lamando, Fr. Tom White, Clara Escobar, Bel Gwiazdowski, Rob Konnyu, Scott Kresge, Jean Skocypec, and Ed Stout.

Absent: Tom Sombar.

Meeting was called to order by Senior Warden Jill Malloy at 7:00 pm.

Opening Prayer was given by Fr. Tom.

Acceptance of May Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made by Sharon to accept the April meeting minutes. Clara seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Treasurer's Report –

Ed reported that he sent out the packet of financial information ahead of time and asked if anyone had any questions.

Bel made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report subject to audit. Sharon seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

2018 Audit – Ed stated that he has now received two bills from the accounting firm doing the 2018 audit and this was also with another late fee. We still have not received a product from them and they continued to not respond to emails or calls. Ed reported that he finally got an email this afternoon from the firm, and they are now stating that the report appears to not be completed and they need additional information. He claims that he has asked both Tom Sombar and Judy Gregory for the information and neither has responded. Ed is surprised by that and thinks he is trying to set up a case where we as the client are not cooperating to complete the audit. This has been going on for more than a year. Fr. Tom has recently called four times with no response from the firm at all. Fr. Tom left a message asking why we are being charged for a product we have not received, and we are being charge several late charges as well. In Ed's last email he stated to the accountant that until the product was delivered and properly reviewed by the vestry, there will be no payment and we will not be paying any late charges either.

Diocesan Acceptance – Ed reported that normally we pay half the Diocesan Acceptance in July. Judy reached out to Ed about when we would start paying and he told her of our upcoming unexpected projects and extra expense of the required audits, and he would have to talk to the vestry.

Committee Reports

Property

Sharon gave the property report. No indication for the arrival of the appliances for the rental. SABR's inspected the HVAC unit, Roland is cleaning the filters next week. Mike will show Roland what to do.

Parish Administration

Scott reported that with in-person worship, along with the streaming, we are averaging 55-70 in attendance each Sunday. He stressed for the streaming that we can only count households, not individuals like we can for in-person worship. We are at or slightly above the attendance that we had just before the pandemic hit.

Outreach

Clara reported on Outreach. Tomorrow starts the Sandwich Thursday program.

Jean stated that at the last Outreach meeting they discussed the possibility of participating in the September 4th town wide yard sale. They are going to try to change it and rent tables to people that do crafts. They are proposing to rent 10 tables at \$25 each. They would set up the tables in the parking lot. They will have a small section for the church to have a yard sale section and a bake table like we have had in the past.

Youth Ministry

Jill reported that Sunday School is finished, and they ended it with a zoom session. She hopes that we will be meeting in person come September. She is hoping this summer to plan a picnic on the Wharton Street lot. She was thinking originally just the Sunday School, but now she is proposing that we do it for the entire congregation.

Music/Worship

Fr. Tom gave the report. He wants to discuss the regathering under old business. He will be away June 27th, and Canon Martha Kirkpatrick will be filling in for him that Sunday. He will be also gone, August 22nd and 29th. Pastor Karen will be the supply for those two weekends. He will also be gone September 19th and the 26th and Pastor Karen will be filling in then too. He stated that Scott will be away August 15th, 22nd, and the 29th on vacation. Ed Startt will be the supply organist.

Old Business

Sidewalk/Steps

Sharon reported she and Jill met with another mason person from J&M Masonry to get a second quote for the sidewalk repair job. He is the only one who responded to the request on the Home Advisor site. She requested that Wingo mark each section of sidewalk to be replaced, but he is currently out with COVID. She requested that he at least get us a quote for the four sections that were previously established.

Name Plaque for Memorial Garden

Jill reported the engraved plaques for Barney, Shirley, and Douglas are done. Jerry took them to Chardon Jewelers in Georgetown. They did not charge us, and Fr. Tom wrote them a letter of appreciation for their generosity.

Bylaws Subcommittee

Scott, the subcommittee chair, reported that the revisions were completed. They were sent out to the vestry in a digitally altered document for the vestry to review prior to the meeting. Scott then read the changes officially into the minutes.

Attached with the minutes is the marked-up copy that had the changes read into the minutes. Any information that they are proposing to be deleted has a ~~strike through~~ over it and additional information is in **red**.

Also attached is a scanned final copy of the bylaws that is signed and dated.

A motion was made by Sharon to accept the changes, it was seconded by Jean, and all were in favor.

Diocesan Acceptance

With the upcoming 2020 Audit for \$7,500 and the sidewalks possibly costing \$7,500, the vestry feels that we should wait until these expenditures are completed and evaluate in the fall what we can afford to send. Bel made a motion we wait to evaluate until the end of the year. Sharon seconded, and all were in favor. It was decided if funds become available prior to the end of the year a motion can be made to pay them something earlier.

Regathering

Fr. Tom wanted to talk about any feedback regarding the regathering process since we have been doing it for several weeks. Jill had one person ask when the masks would not be required. It was decided that temperatures will no longer be required to enter the building.

New Business

Shepherding Groups

Jill asked since we are back to in-person are the groups still necessary.

Jean stated that she has cut back to every other week. She still does some every week as they have developed a relationship. If she sees the person in church on Sunday that is sufficient. The ones she doesn't see, she feels it is still her responsibility to keep in contact with them.

Fr. Tom has sent out an email asking if the shepherds still want to do it, and one has stepped down and he also mentioned that they could now do it monthly, not weekly. He feels the shepherding group ministry is the Connect, in the Invite Welcome Connect (IWC) movement that Bishop Brown has asked us to do. Jean asked if this would fall under the IWC committee, and currently this committee is inactive.

Bel stated that we need to remain in contact with the people who we do not see in worship and those who may not be worshipping online so that they do not fall through the cracks.

Parking Lot

Jill reported that at some point we are going to have it sealed and restriped. Jill also stated that the parking lot is being abused by the general public. Jill suggested we could possibly chain it off with signs. Fr. Tom says that if the two entrances to the lot were chained off, we would keep the tenant entrance access from Prettyman Street. Sharon reported there are a lot of cracks in the parking lot, and she feels that the trucks parking there are a main cause. Scott stated that we have two extra posts in the shed and all we would need would be to have them installed and then get chains and signs, so the cost should be minimal. Scott will check on them and get back to Sharon and the property committee.

Summer Hiatus

A motion was made by Sharon that we do not meet during July and August and resume the regular meetings again starting in September. It was seconded by Clara, and all were in favor.

At 9:20 p.m. a motion was made by Bel to adjourn the meeting. Sharon seconded the motion, and all were in agreement.

Next Vestry Meeting – Wednesday, September 15, 2021, 7:00 via zoom

Respectfully submitted by Scott Kresge, Clerk of the Vestry.