

The Church of the Good Shepherd, Dunedin, Florida

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting July 22, 2020

Note: Due to Coronavirus guidelines on Social Distancing the meeting was held online via Zoom, Meeting ID: 987 7765 7587

Members Present: Pastor Becky Robbins-Penniman, Deacon Cindy Roehl, Phil Beauchamp, London Bates, Iris Brookins, Cheryl Sharpe, Dan Depies, Diane Niford, John Russotto, Judy Warner, Joe Nixon (treasurer), Pat Cates (clerk)

Members Absent: Robyn Harker

I. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order by Pastor Becky Robbins-Penniman at 6:35PM.

II. Opening Devotions

- The opening devotion was given by John Russotto.

III. Information

A. Mark Your Calendars

- **Every Sunday:** Services live-streamed at 8 & 10
- **Next Vestry Meeting: August 26, 2020**
- **Becky's Reception: August 28 from 5 to 7 at the Fenway Hotel**
- **Becky's final Sunday as Rector: August 30, 2020**

B. Financial Report

- Handouts #1A and #1B
- Joe Nixon reported that contributions through the first three weeks of July are \$15K. \$19K was budgeted for July and in 2019 July contributions were \$21K.
- Joe was thanked for the recent letter to the congregation concerning finances.
- Joe requested that in the future such mailings should not include a member's financial statement. This information is known only to the Administrative Assistant and several members assumed that Joe knew this information since it was included in the same mailing.
- The only information missing from the report was Bazilla collections. Cindy Roehl will follow up with this information.

IV. Decision

A. Consent Items

- June 24, 2020 Regular Meeting minutes—approve

- Fundraising Request for Pack-a-Sack and Discretionary Fund (recommended by Finance on July 15, 2020) Handout #2
- Motion to approve by Cheryl Sharpe; seconded by John Russotto.
- Approved

B. Contracts

- Repair electrical wiring in Sexton's house by Diamond Electric for \$14,599 (recommended by Finance July 15, 2020); SOF: capital reserve. Handout #4
- There was a minor fire in the Sexton's house; the current wiring was determined to be unsafe and needs replacement.
- There are also plumbing issues which can be addressed in the future.
- Motion to approve by Cheryl Sharpe; seconded by Judy Warner
- Approved
- Upgrade sanctuary sound system and wifi by CP Communications for \$7,283 (recommend by Finance July 15, 2020); SOF: gift. Handout #3
- The equipment being used is out of date; it is analog and needs to be updated to digital to work correctly with the live-streaming.
- Motion to approve by Phil Beauchamp; seconded by Cheryl Sharpe
- Approved

C. Corporate Filing Changes

- Handout #8
- In reviewing the bylaws a member suggested including the corporate document number.
- When the document was reviewed it was noted that Phil Beauchamp was listed as "Ms" and the Registered Agent information should be changed.
- London Bates reported that changes to the document can be made mid-year through an amendment or on the Annual Report at the beginning of the year.
- An amendment form is on line for making changes.
- Phil's gender will be corrected.
- It was consensus to list the Senior Warden as the Registered Agent and then the new Priest when he/she is installed.
- It was noted that "D" stands for director and "VD" is vice-director.

V. Discussion

A. Fifth Draft of Congregational bylaws

- Pastor Becky presented the fifth draft of the Congregational bylaws. Handout #5
- The Vestry approved that the bylaws as drafted be presented to the Congregation for a vote.

- The voting will take place at a called Congregational meeting which will be held simultaneously “in person” and in an online meeting using the Zoom platform.
- As there is no quorum requirement stated in the Diocesan Canons for Congregational meetings, whoever attends in person and online will constitute a quorum.
- Planning and scheduling for this meeting will be completed as soon as possible.

B. August Vestry Voices and Vibes

- After a short discussion it was consensus to make the August issue a Question and Answer forum on the Rector search.
- Iris Brookins will coordinate the issue with the assistance of Diane Niford.
- Each member was asked to contribute one or two questions to Iris.
- The August issue is scheduled to go out the first Sunday in August.

C. Furniture Thrift Shop Roofing Project

- Dan Depies reported that the FTS is recording excellent sales in spite of limited hours and volunteers.
- The condition of the roof has become a concern
- When the property was purchased the board was optimistic about the life of the roof.
- Approximately \$4,000 per year is being spent on roof repairs.
- It was determined that a new roof is needed and five bids were received between \$40K and \$100K.
- The board was impressed with the company which proposed the lowest bid of \$41K and cancelled the second interview.
- This company will repair weak spots in the roof and install an insulation layer. In addition they will pitch the roof to the back of the building
- They will also work with an A/C company in the removal and reinstallation of the A/C units.
- The FTS is currently exploring finance options.
- It will then present its proposal to the Building & Grounds Committee, the Finance Committee and the Vestry for approval
- Butch Niford, who was present for this part of the meeting reported that the contractor was very capable. Two additional items this contractor will address will be the Environmental Survey and rain gutters and downspouts. Both are at an additional cost.
- There was a short discussion on the warranty and Dan reported that he will clarify the figures presented and report back to the Vestry.
- Dan asked that the Vestry provide feedback or questions for this project so he can report back to the FTS.

- There was a short discussion on funding options.
- It was consensus of the Vestry that the FTS should pursue the roofing project.

D. Sanctuary Access during the day

- Pastor Becky reported that persons have been using the Sanctuary during the day for prayer.
- There was a theft and minor damage done recently.
- The Alms box by the candles was taken; it was returned later to the parish and still contained \$9.00 inside. Garry has reinstalled it.
- There is the need for a good security camera. The current camera is not working properly.
- Until a good security camera is installed the Sanctuary will remain closed. Those wishing access will have to find someone who can open the door.

VI. Planning

A. Diocesan Convocations & Convention—all Virtual

- Handout #7
- Delegates: Diane & Butch Niford and Mary Ratliff; Alternate: Cheryl Sharpe
- Sign Confirmation Certificate
- The Senior Warden or clerk will need to sign the certificate.
- Diane and Butch are still planning to attend; Cheryl as an alternate.
- Pastor Becky reported that there are still portions of the convention which have not been resolved.
- These include the Opening Eucharist and Convocation.
- The Clericus has recommended that the Eucharist be celebrated at Ascension on September 2nd for those who wish to attend. It will also be live-streamed.
- There have been discussions on having delegates go to a central location for the Convocation which will be live-streamed as well.
- There is also work being done as to how the delegates will vote.
- More information will be given when a decision has been made by the Bishop.

B. Milestone Calendar

- Dan Depies asked that the members send in any updates on the Milestone Calendar, and he will prepare a new calendar.
- There will be a separate calendar which will address the search process.

C. Contingency Planning

- Upgraded planning list from Becky
- Handout #6

D. Sacred Ground: Episcopal Church Anti-Racism program/Clearwater Deanery

- Cindy Roehl spoke of the Episcopal based program which is allowing white persons to talk with other white persons about racism.
- Currently there are 600 facilitators in the country who are holding small group discussions over a ten session program.
- The sessions cover a wide range of topics including Native Americans, the slave trade and more recent events.
- The program allows participants to increase their awareness from several vantage points.
- The Clearwater Deanery Deacons were asked to follow up on this program.
- Martha Goodwill has shared her experiences from this program.
- St. Petersburg started a program in January which is still continuing.
- The Clearwater Deanery Clericus asked Cindy to speak with them to look at participating in the program.
- Cindy feels that this program is something in which we need to participate.
- Small groups can get together and talk about their experiences and concerns so they can have a better understanding.
- The groups meet once a month or every three weeks in groups of no more than twelve. These are further divided into groups of three or four for further discussion. The sessions last approximately one and a half hour.
- The meetings are currently held on Zoom.
- Congregations are encouraged to participate and could join forces with other congregations.
- Cindy will be glad to facilitate the program at Good Shepherd and suggests that the Vestry begin discussions on the program.
- It is possible that the Diocese may require anti-racism training similar to Safeguarding Our Children.

VII. Closing Devotions

- The closing devotion was given by John Russotto

VIII. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:52PM

Respectfully submitted,

C. Pat Cates
Clerk