

The Church of the Good Shepherd, Dunedin, Florida

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting May 20, 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, Robyn Harker, Diane Niford, John Russotto, Judy Warner, Joe Nixon (treasurer), Pat Cates (clerk)

Members Absent: None

I. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order by Pastor Becky Robbins-Penniman at 6:32PM

II. Opening Devotions

- The Opening Devotion was given by Judy Warner.

III. Information

A. Mark Your Calendars

- Every Sunday: Services live-streamed at 8AM and 10AM
- Vestry Virtual Coffee Hour: May 31, 2020
- Next Vestry Meeting: June 17, 2020

B. Financial Report

- Handouts #1A and #1B
- Joe Nixon reported good news that contributions are up 2% above last year and the Discretionary Fund is 186% over last year. These are good indicators of the strong finances at Good Shepherd.
- Joe recommends that the parish pay the Diocesan Tithe for April and May which will be approximately \$6K.
- With the Tithe paid the parish will be current on its expenses including pension and insurance.
- Joe noted that the Furniture Thrift Store has a grace period on their mortgage until July.
- The parish received \$42K under the Paycheck Protection Program.
- There was a short discussion on other financial matters including the cash position of the parish in 3 and 6 months and keeping current with expenses through the summer.

C. 2019 Audit Report

- Handout #2 (four pages)

- The entire audit is quite lengthy and only 4 pages were reproduced for this report.
- Pastor Becky reviewed the 3 recommendations under #1 on page 2
- There was a short discussion relative to the third recommendation as it relates to the Little Thrift Shop.
- Becky read through the other findings as shown on page 23 of the report.
- The Vestry received the audit as information and gave a well done to the Audit Committee for an excellent job.

IV. Decision

A. Consent Items

- April 22, 2020 Regular Meeting minutes—approve.
- Treasurer Recommendations for Bill Payable as noted in IIIB in regards to the Diocesan Tithe. Moved to the Consent Agenda by consensus.
- Motion to approve by Cheryl Sharpe; seconded by Diane Niford
- Approved

B. Treasurer Recommendations for Bills Payable

- Approved as noted under “A”.

C. Hero Bonus to Church Staff (NOT clergy)

- Diane Niford proposed that a “Hero” bonus be given to staff members Carey Cherivtch, Garry Lumm, Robert Moncrief, Dawn Gordon and Marcia Nauman for their tireless work during the present crisis.
- There was a lengthy discussion as to how much should be awarded to each person and from which fund the money should be withdrawn.
- It was suggested that the Episcopal Church Women may be a source to fund the bonuses.
- Robyn Harker will talk with Nancy Redd about this possibility.
- It was further suggested that Joe Nixon receive a gift card for his work as Treasurer.
- Contingent upon ECW approval, the total bonus package will be \$2200--\$500 each for Carey, Garry, Robert and Dawn and \$200 for Marcia.
- A \$100 gift card to Luekens will be given to Joe Nixon.
- Approved by consensus.

D. Re-entering the Church

- Bishop’s guidance
- Re-entering Task Force Plan

- Becky was hoping that worship services would re-open with the 25%, 6 foot rule on Pentecost (May 31).
- The Bishop has decided to remain with the 10 people, 6 foot rule (10/6) for the present time.
- Becky would like to re-start the Wednesday and Saturday services with 10/6 rule.
- She also noted that she is ready to offer three services on Sunday morning: 8:00; 9:15 and 10:30 in order that more worshippers will be able to participate under the 10/6 rule.
- The Sunday morning services would allow 10 worshippers in the Sanctuary; 10 in Kirk Hall via Youtube and 10 in the Patio Room via Youtube.
- Through mutual invitation it was consensus to offer two services (8:00 and 10:00) on Sunday and a service on Wednesday and Saturday all under the 10/6 rule.
- These services will begin on May 31st.
- Becky reported that the Bishop's decision (10/6) was for the health and safety of the Diocese and to shield the churches from any liability which could be the result of going beyond the recommendations of the CDC.
- A motion to approve the Parish Re-entering Plan as amended was made by John Russotto and seconded by Cheryl Sharpe.
- Approved.

V. Discussion

A. Solar Project

- Dan Depies gave background information on the solar project.
- Building and Grounds has been studying solar energy for approximately a year.
- A member of B & G, Dave Thornton, has put together three proposals which have been presented to the Finance Committee as information.
- The Finance Committee recommended that the Vestry discuss these proposals.
- Payback for solar energy will be between 10 and 13 years and the estimated cost is \$190K to 200K.
- It needs to be determined whether to table the discussion on solar energy or proceed with discussions.
- Through mutual invitation it was consensus to discuss solar energy at a future meeting.
- There were concerns expressed relative to the cost of the project and studies to determine if the roof of the buildings are able to support solar panels.
- Dave Thornton will be invited to speak at the next meeting.

B. May Vestry Voices and Vibes: What Should Diane talk about?

- Becky pointed out that there was an interruption in the original order in which members were to submit their articles. Each member should move their name back one month from the original schedule.
- After a brief discussion it was consensus that Diane will write about re-entry and the Vestry Coffee Hour.

VI. Planning

A. Vestry Virtual Coffee Hour

- There was a short discussion on the virtual coffee hour which included persons who have been attending and the good conversations that have been held.
- Only a few persons attended the last coffee hour.
- There will be communications encouraging the congregation to attend future coffee hours.
- All Vestry members were encouraged to attend the Vestry Coffee Hour which will be held on May 31st.

VII. Closing Devotions

- The Closing Devotion was given by Judy Warner

VIII. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:06PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

C. Pat Cates
Clerk