St. Paul’s Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting Minutes

November 21, 2021

**Members Present:** Doug Merritt, Ramona Curtis, Mark Williams, Beverly Cook, Richard Searcy, Carol Canter, Joe Fesperman, Mother Stephanie Parker

**Others Present:** John Harwell, Bill Harris

The meeting started at 12:10 p.m. with a prayer followed by a scripture reading and discussion.

**Meeting Minutes:** Joe Fesperman made a motion that was seconded by Richard Searcy to approve the October 17, 2021 Vestry Meeting Minutes. The motion passed.

**Financial Report:** John Harwell advised that income for October was above budget and expenses for October were below budget. The value of the Diocese Investment Fund decreased in October. The 2022 Budget was reviewed. After a discussion, Carol Canter made a motion that was seconded by Beverly Cook to accept the 2022 Budget as presented. The motion passed. The 10% diocesan pledge will be based on 2020 income. Also, it is time to start work on the annual audit.

**Jr. Warden:** Joe Fesperman passed out projected costs of the office project. After discussing, Doug Merritt made a motion that was seconded by Mark Williams to get Keith Hubbard to do drawings and then determine our next steps. The motion passed.

**Sr. Warden:** Mark Williams advised that Mother Stephanie’s agreement with St. Paul’s has been signed and a copy sent to the Diocese. The church bylaws concerning the organization of the Vestry were discussed. Beverly Cook then made a motion that was seconded Joe Fesperman to update Part 1, Section 7 to now read ” The nominating team shall meet November-December each year prior to the date of the Vestry meeting to review nominations that have been compiled thru a variety of means. A list consisting of qualified candidates will then be recommended to the Vestry to fill the number of empty seats. Approved nominees will be presented at the annual meeting. The motion passed. Also, the Vestry agreed that “Due to the COVID Pandemic and associated disruption and the need to create stability in the Vestry’s work, the Vestry will be frozen and current Vestry members will remain in service until either December 2022, 2023 or 2024 depending on when they were elected. At the end of 2022, all bylaws will revert to the current form and procedure. This effectively adds one year of service to each current Vestry member’s term.

**Rector’s Report:** The Annual Meeting will be January 16, 2022. The next Vestry meeting is December 12,

2021. The Vestry agreed to restart the Step Ahead Program. Also, the 2022 Clergy Housing Allowance Resolution for Mother Stephanie was approved by the Vestry. The resolution reads as follows “

Whereas the Rev. Stephanie E. Parker is employed as a minister of the Gospel by St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Wilkesboro, NC, which does not provide a residence for her, the vestry

resolves that of the total compensation to be paid to the Rev. Stephanie E. Parker during the period of January1st through December 31st, 2022 that $50,000 be designated a housing allowance within the meaning of that term as used in

Section 107 of the IRS Code of 1986.

The meeting ended at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Bill Harris

Clerk of the Vestry