

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting Minutes

August 29, 2021

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

**Others Present:** Bill Harris

The meeting started at 12:20 p.m. Mother Stephanie read a scripture and prayer. She then explained the outline of the new vestry meeting format.

**Meeting Minutes:** Richard Barber made a motion that was seconded by Doug Merritt to approve the August 1, 2021 Vestry Meeting Minutes. The motion passed.

**Financial Report:** John Harwell submitted a written summary of the July and six months financial report in his absence. Income for July was \$16,535.01 vs. a budget of \$29,791.67. Expenses for July of \$27,637.00 were inline but were about \$11,000 over income for the month. YTD income is \$193,360.58 vs. the YTD budget of \$197,541.65. YTD expenses are \$173,310.55 vs. the YTD budget of \$227,053.32. The report also shows the \$10,000 received from The Strickland Foundation for community outreach. Gwen Temple made a motion that was seconded by Carol Canter to approve the July 2021 financial report. The motion passed.

There was a discussion of healthy congregations and what it is. The definitions of healthy vs. unhealthy were listed. The vestry then watched the first module of a video series. The vestry agreed to move forward with the new vestry meeting format.

Electronic giving was discussed. Doug Merritt then made a motion that was seconded by Richard Barber to approve moving forward with electronic giving in addition to our regular forms of giving. The motion passed. There is a \$49.00 monthly subscription cost along with a transaction fee.

Stewardship will be discussed at next month's vestry meeting.

**Jr. Warden:** Joe Fesperman advised the renovation of the Sacristy is complete. The next project will be the discussion of the office renovation. Diane Peabody continues to work in the gardens. Joe received a call from a parishioner about Afghan refugees which was discussed. Beverly Cook made a motion that was seconded by Carol Canter to look into the possibility of hosting Afghan refugees. The motion passed.

The meeting closed at 3:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Harris

Clerk of the Vestry