

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting Minutes

February 14, 2021

The Vestry convened virtually via Zoom

**Members Present:** Doug Merritt, Doug Morris, Mark Williams, Beverly Cook, Richard Searcy, Carol Canter, Joe Fesperman, Gwen Temple, Mother Stephanie Parker, Rev. Dn. Susan Whittington

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

The meeting started at 11:05 a.m. Joe Fesperman read a poem and prayer.

Mother Stephanie announced the selection of Mark Williams to be Sr. Warden this year and he has agreed to serve. By acclamation, Joe Fesperman was elected Jr. Warden, John Harwell was elected Treasurer and Bill Harris was elected Clerk of the Vestry.

**Meeting Minutes:** Gwen Temple made a motion that was seconded by Doug Morris to approve the January 17, 2021 Vestry Meeting Minutes and the January 24, 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes. The motion passed.

**Financial Report:** John Harwell advised that January was a good month with pledge income of \$45,753 which includes \$31,000 of prepaid pledges. John explained that the monthly budget is based on a two year historical percentage of the annual budget. Total expenses for the month were inline. Vanessa Greer has agreed to help out in the office 3 days a week and is paid \$25.00 per hour. This is shown as an administrative assistant expense. Property expense looks high for the month as the insurance is paid quarterly. Office expenses were up due to computer software updates. Crisis Assistance received donations of \$1755.92 for the month. The operational income for January was approximately \$20,000. Investment income reported in January was a gain of \$67,527.64. This year 58 pledges totaling \$247,535.00 were received. This was a fewer number of pledges than 2020: however, the average pledge amount increased compared to 2020. There were 24 pledges made in 2020 that were not made for 2021. There will be follow up on these.

**Sr. Warden:** Mark Williams welcomed the new vestry members. The cemetery guideline update, parish administrator and choir director are still being worked on. Decisions will need to be made in the future concerning in person services: however, any decision will have to follow the Bishop's guidelines. It was noted that there are no windows that can be opened in either worship area.

**Jr. Warden:** Joe Fesperman and Mother Stephanie will walk the campus to check the status of things. He will solicit input on things that need to be addressed and ask people to help resolve. A work day is being planned for March.

**Rector's Report:** Mother Stephanie's day off will be Monday. Ministry teams will be built. The purpose of the church is to build relationships and there must be really clear communication. A zoom vestry

retreat will be will be planned now with a goal of having an in person retreat later in the year. She is close to hiring a parish administrator. The list of people who can sign checks needs to be updated. Richard Searcy made a motion that was seconded by Carol Canter to designate Mark Williams, John Harwell, Ramona Curtis and Mother Stephanie as people who can sign checks. Joe Fesperman will approve invoices for payment. The payroll system is now handled by ADP thru the Diocese. Mother Stephanie asked that everyone remember Tina Duncan and her husband in your thoughts and prayers.

The meeting closed with a prayer for Leadership.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Harris

Clerk of the Vestry