

**The Church of the Ascension  
Minutes of the Vestry  
December 15, 2020**

**Present Via Zoom:** Rev. Stewart Tabb, Chuck Beers, Debra Griggs, Anji Harris, Ann McMellin, Harry Porfert, Chester Long, Philip Todd, Doug Thompson, Beverley Buston and Kristan Huddle.

**I. Welcome:** Stewart Tabb called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and Harry Porfert led the opening devotion.

**II. Register:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the corrected minutes of the previous meeting (November 17th) and unanimously approved.

**III. Check in question for Vestry Members:** What does a really healthy Parish congregation look like? Discussion followed.

**IV. New Business**

1. PPP loan update: Chester Long present. The goal was to have the total loan of \$144,300 to be forgiven. The loan has primarily been used for payroll purposes. Approximately 80% used for the School, 20% used for the Church.
2. Hacking of the Church Facebook page on 11/7/2020 reported by Stewart Tabb. The banner had been changed to a grossly inappropriate picture. All down within 5 minutes. No idea where it came from.
3. Discussion of the work with the consultant, Beverley Buston. Questions discussed:
  - a. How will we know when we're done?
  - b. Is there any reporting going on? How do we know how we're doing?
  - c. Why do we have a consultant?

Following discussion the Vestry decided to add **Action Items** to each Vestry minutes report. **See VII. below.**

**V. Committee Reports:**

1. **Finance:** Chuck Beers present. A motion was made to continue the 2020 budget through 2/28/2021 was made, seconded and unanimously approved. There was a second motion made to increase X X 's salary by X to \$X/hr effective 1/1/2021, seconded and unanimously approved.
2. **Stewardship:** Chuck Beers present. There have been 59 pledges received for a total of \$260,000. That's \$30,000 less than last year when there were 71 pledges totalling \$290,000. See [Attachment #1](#) (email from Stewart Tabb dated 12/11/2020 3:19pm Subject: Meeting reminder December 15) for a thank you message from Stewardship Chairs, Bob and Susan Motley.

3. **Building and Grounds:** Anji Harris present. See [Attachment #1](#) (email from Stewart Tabb dated 12/11/2020 3:19pm Subject: Meeting reminder December 15). There will also be a change from Wordpress (\$225/yr) to GoDaddy (\$200/yr) for Ascension's webpage.
4. **Pastoral Care:** Philip Todd present. See [Attachment #1](#) (email from Stewart Tabb dated 12/11/2020 3:19pm Subject: Meeting reminder December 15.)
5. **Fellowship:** Harry Porfert present. Roni Porfert purchased a new refrigerator for \$20.00.
6. **Liturgy:** See [Attachment #1](#) (email from Stewart Tabb dated 12/11/2020 3:19pm Subject: Meeting reminder December 15) for update on Covid 19 provided by Doug Thompson.
7. **Outreach:** Ann McMellin present. All the stockings were delivered to the Salvation Army. Catholic Worker took the food boxes. NEST is happening now at First Presbyterian. They still need volunteers to assist with the 40 guests. The request for gift cards to McDonalds and bus passes will be added to the bulletin. Also a motion was made to approve fund raisers, seconded and unanimously approved.
8. **Day School:** Currently the Infant, Toddler and Four's rooms are closed due to Covid outbreak. The Toddler room should reopen tomorrow and the Infant and Four's room soon.
9. **Food Pantry:** See [Attachment #1](#) (email from Stewart Tabb dated 12/11/2020 3:19pm Subject: Meeting reminder December 15).

**VI. Clergy Report:** Stewart Tabb present: The Advent bags have all been delivered. Christmas Eve and Day services will only be streamed. It is important to like, follow and comment on the Facebook page during the live streams.

**VII. Action Items:** The Vestry agreed to take action on the following:

1. All members will look at and work on the Mission Statement.
2. Ann, Anji, Stewart and Beverley to come up with talking points that Vestry members can use to address conversations with Church members regarding their concerns.
3. We will work on clarity of what the Vestry is trying to accomplish.

**VIII. Schedule/Devotions:** Harry Porfert led the closing devotion. The next Vestry meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 7:00 PM. Stewart Tabb will lead the devotions at this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kristan Huddle