

February 22, 2022, Vestry minutes – Final

Present: Rev. Lisa Musser, Stewart Abbot, Mark Johnson, Katie Kinney, Andy Kitchell, Joe Butler, Dorothy Sullivan, Judy Gregory, Linda Springer, Lisa Blank, Margaret Grant, Bob Brunswig.

Absent Excused: none

Absent: none

Guests: Herrick Garnsey, Paul Gaiser, Barb Maxfield, Jim DeMersseman, Clifford Clift, Steve Teksten.
Joseph Rotella

Meeting called to order at 6:37 p.m.

Lord's Prayer led by Linda.

Correspondence – An email from Weston Kurz will be discussed in the South property portion of the agenda.

BUSINESS:

Additions: Discussion r/t the organ restoration project

Approval of minutes of 1/25/22 – Addition of Linda Springer to the South 6 property committee. Correction of misspellings. Approved by acclamation as corrected.

Approval of electronic vote of February 4, 2022: Corrected date to January 25, 2022. Approved by acclamation as corrected.

Financial report for January 2022: January wasn't as bad as anticipated with a net operating surplus of \$9958. Pledge income was \$23,066 and plate income was \$4603. The snow removal budget has already been overspent. The 2022 budget needed correcting to increase the Diocesan contribution to reflect a larger income projection. Finance committee did not find immediate sources of cost cutting. Currently the cleaning cost at \$27,000 yearly represents 65% of our building and maintenance budget. Reducing turf to save on water cost comes with its own upfront and ongoing expense. Utilities are up and more than anticipated at present. The January report, with the Diocesan correction, is submitted by finance committee as a motion, seconded by Joe. Passed unanimously. Some discussion r/t the water rights we own. We are not currently seeking sale of these.

Determine time and place for meetings [Article V, Sec 3(a)]: Vestry meetings will continue to be the 4th Tuesday of each month for 2022. Passed by acclamation.

Clerk of the Vestry – This position is currently vacant seeking someone so called.

DISCUSSION:

The 3 M's – Meeting Minutes Management: Andy had pointed out the absence of several vestry minutes from 2019 and 2020 in the notebooks in the library. Stewart and Sabrina have filled in those missing apart

from Nov and Dec 2019 that have yet to be found. Going forward, Judy offers to transfer minutes from the bulletin board to the library notebooks.

South 6 Update: Stewart received a text message from Weston Kurz, director of Dayspring wondering how our discussion went after his visit and proposal. Stewart had emailed Mike Garrett at the City seeking an appointment for further learning without reply to this point. Bob will try to make this contact while Stewart is in Mexico. The property committee is emailing back and forth. The main concern continues to be access. Leasing the property is not getting much interest from the group. Dayspring is anxious to know how they will proceed within 60 days. Jim wonders if an audit had been done to determine a value. A broker recommended by the Diocese has given us an analysis. We have not rushed to a second analysis due to the cost and time constraint. Regarding the separate issue of the water right we own, a key finding to be determined is whether it is encumbered or not. The City of Greeley would be a likely buyer, but an auction could also be considered. We are not obligated to sell the water right though it is an asset we are not able to use ourselves. There are fees associated with holding the right.

Annual Meeting and accept minutes from February 6, 2022: Vestry members have received two documents – a set of minutes for the bulletin board and notebook and a set of the verbatim comments for Vestry members use. The minutes were received by acclamation.

Budget shortfall: Jim believes wonders how much debt we carry. None. Margaret believes we will be more successful in the future by focusing on in reach prior to stewardship season. Judy feels we need to just start doing this, perhaps adding some folks not on the Vestry. Perhaps not just phone calls - texting and emailing have worked for Judy. She also feels some Vestry members need to be involved in more in-depth analysis of finances besides the finance committee. Stewart will seek to organize a gathering of those interested in March, prior to the finance committee meeting on March 16. Joe reminds us that the long-term fix for finances is to “bring back the community.”

Organ restoration project: Joseph Rotella, heading the restoration, has communicated that removal of the carpet in the choir loft would greatly help the tonal finishing for the organ. It was not in the loft when the organ was originally installed. As well the pads on the handbell tables interferes with the tonal sound. He recommends placing thin Masonite covers over the bell pads when not being used. Joseph was present for questions and clarification. Consensus of the group is that we should move ahead with this and that some parishioners would likely be sufficient for this. There are monies in the organ fund to cover the most recent invoice.

DECISION: None on agenda

Treasurer –No further report

Junior Warden – New doorstops have been installed on multiple doors in the corridors, more to come. Mark will be checking into programming of thermostats. A roof leak over the entryway on the west side near the chapel has been repaired.

Senior Warden – Introduced the notion of a “Consent Agenda” for the routine acceptance of minutes and reports as a time saving measure for future meetings.

Rector – Vestry Resource Guides have been purchased for each vestry member. These would be handed on after one’s term is done. Questions in each chapter may be helpful at some future Vestry retreat.

Shrove Tuesday pancake supper will occur in the parish hall or take home available. Ash Wednesday services are at 12:00 and a family oriented service at 5:30. The Wednesday Lenten program is a study called "Return To Me."

Herrick tells us he's encouraged by the discussion of working to reconnect with parishioners and rebuild relationships.

Stewart closed with prayer.
Adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Dates to remember:

Vestry 3/22/2022

Palm Sunday 4/10/2022

Easter Sunday 4/17/2022

Respectfully submitted,
Stewart Abbot
Senior Warden