

GOOD SHEPHERD EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting

June 11, 2024

ATTENDANCE:

In-Person: Fr. Joe Hudson, Bob Sawyer, Don McKelvy, Ed Silva, Megarie van Sickel, Lynne Altimier, Judy Jarvis

Via Zoom: Libby Chinman, Carole LaBate, Elaine Hedrick

Absent: Ruth Bruno, Christine Pizer **Guests:** None

The meeting was called to order by Bob Sawyer at 6:30.

Father Joe opened the meeting with a moment of silence and a prayer.

ACTION ITEMS/MOTIONS:

- a. Megarie van Sickel moved to approve the Clerk's Minutes from the May 14, 2024, Vestry meeting. Don McKelvy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. Ed Silva moved to accept the Treasurer's Report for May, 2024, as prepared and submitted by Lynne Altimier. Libby Chinman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- c. In regard to a request for a motion to support Jason Flack as a seminarian in Ministry Formation, Fr. Joe read a letter in which Jason wrote of enrolling in three years of study to train as a minister at Nashota House in Wisconsin. He requested support in the form of prayers and he also wrote of trying to raise \$16,000 a year to cover tuition and seminary expenses. After finishing his spring semester at the seminary, he is interning in Oklahoma at All Souls Episcopal Church during which time he will be doing strictly parish ministry work. Finally, Fr. Joe stated we have a new budget line item of \$2500 for ministry formation, and he requested a motion for \$1500 to support Jason. Bob Sawyer so moved. Ed Silva seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

PAUSE FOR PRAYERS AND THANKSGIVING: Ed Silva

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

a. Restoration and Renovation - Fr. Joe

There are still a few items to finish on the roof; these are unfortunately on hold this week due to the weather. In addition, there is a piece of rebar sticking up in the parking lot that needs to be taken care of. There is also a delay in installing the front doors. The doors that were delivered were not the correct doors; they were ordered in error. Hopefully, the right doors will be delivered soon. Otherwise, there are mainly a few minor tweaks in process by Sue Miller, Stephanie Kitt, and Cindy McKelvy to decorate some areas in the parish hall.

Fr. Joe also brought up the problem with the stove in the kitchen. The pilot light burns too big and makes the surface of the stove too hot, creating a safety issue. Turning the pilot light off is not a good option, since it is very difficult to relight. The stove also uses too much propane too quickly. David and John are looking into options for replacing the stove.

Ed Silva brought up a problem with the new dishwasher not having a heating element to supply hot water. After the Pasta Dinner, everything came out cold and wet, requiring hand drying.

Don McKelvy reported that the odor problem has been pretty much mitigated and, although not totally eradicated, it is very intermittent.

b. Restore, Renew, Rejoice Capital Campaign - Bob Sawyer

The goal to reach for this campaign was \$300,000; Bob reported that pledges are currently at a total of \$360,000. Bob estimates that after paying off the loan we will have a considerable amount of money to replenish the reserves and then to look at improvements against future problems, particularly those due to storms. For example, Bob mentioned that the parish is looking at means to seal the doors against flooding and also towards perhaps building a berm in the back so that Chestnut Creek pond will have to rise more before overflowing onto church property. Also, Bob will be putting together a budget during the summer that will outline the monthly payments that need to be made and the anticipated money coming in each month. Bob particularly stressed the need to be cautious in spending so as to not overextend ourselves.

c. Summer Schedule - Fr. Joe

This year there will be no Vestry meetings for the months of July and August. However, commission reports will be due in September for June, July, and August. There is a possibility of a picnic get-together to spend some time looking at the direction of the

Vestry. Fr. Joe envisions less and less direct hands-on ministry on the part of the Vestry and more focus on vision and goal setting, especially as Good Shepherd continues to grow.

Fr. Joe also spoke of the Bishop's concern about the direction of churches in general. In our area of Florida, as older parishioners leave, a similar generation of people are moving here who still see the value of an institutional church, but consideration needs to be given to the direction of things in the future. Historically, data shows that focus has been on attendance and donations; in the future focus may have to shift to external outreach.

In additional discussion, Fr. Joe spoke about the importance of paying special attention to the temperatures set in the various rooms when locking up. Elaine Hedrick requested an updated version of the checklist. There was also some discussion about the music room temperatures as the vestments are affected by the humidity in the room. The discomfort of wearing choir robes during the summer was also brought up.

Around the Table: Shout Outs, Questions, Comments, Reminders

Among expressions of thanks from other Vestry members, Don McKelvy thanked all those who had been involved in monitoring the roof and especially praised Peter Walker's role in monitoring the roof replacement to its conclusion. Bob Sawyer suggested doing something for Peter and said that he has a contact in the London, Ontario, area who might recommend a good restaurant there. Bob moved that a gift card in the amount of \$200 Canadian be given to Peter and Cobi Walker as a token of appreciation for all of his very valuable donation of time, effort, and dedication in overseeing the roof installation. The motion was seconded by Megarie van Sickle and carried unanimously.

Closing: Prayed the Lord's Prayer in a circle.

Meeting adjourned at 7:42.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Jarvis, Clerk of the Vestry