

GOOD SHEPHERD EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting Tuesday, November 12, 2024

ATTENDANCE:

In-Person: Fr. Joe Hudson, Bob Sawyer, Don McKelvy, Ruth Bruno, Libby Chinman, Christine Pizer, Ed Silva, Megarie van Sickel, Lynne Altimier, Judith Jarvis

Via ZOOM: Elaine Hedrick, Carole LaBate **Absent:** None

Guests: Tony Liccardi (via Zoom)

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

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 October 8, 2024. Ruth Bruno seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.
- b. Don McKelvy moved to accept the Treasurer's reports for October, 2024. Libby Chinman seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.
- c. The Vestry voted unanimously to confirm the e-mail motion passed unanimously on November 2, 2024. The motion was made by Don McKelvy and seconded by Ed Silva to authorize an expenditure to Simply Trees not to exceed \$8,000 for the removal of two damaged slash pine trees and of hanging or broken branches in the Memorial Garden and in the parking lot.
- d. Don McKelvy moved to increase the amount originally approved in October for the purchase and installation of programmable thermostat controls (non-wifi) from Tri-County Air Conditioning and Heating from "not to exceed \$3,500" to not to exceed \$4,000". The change was necessitated by the discovery of an additional thermostat. Christine Pizer seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.
- e. Megarie van Sickel moved to approve a gift of \$1,000 to El Hogar before the holidays. Ruth Bruno seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

- f. Bob Sawyer brought forward a request from Sally Mock that money donated this year for purchasing flowers would go to a named charity due to the large amount of money in the Flower Guild account. Megarie pointed out that such a motion had been made last year. Bob stated that he felt the purpose of the request is to be sure that the congregation is made aware that this is what is being done with donated flower money. The general consensus was that we would do this, and the request was referred to the Outreach Commission for further research and recommendation in time for the congregation to be informed before the holidays.

PAUSE FOR PRAYERS AND THANKSGIVING - Christine Pizer

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- a. **Capital Campaign Update** - Bob Sawyer
Bob began by stating that we are still faithfully receiving Campaign payments. He also pointed out that we paid an extra \$100,000 on top of our normal loan payment this past month. Bob is waiting for a reworking of the amortization schedule to show us what would be involved in paying off the loan by the end of 2025. However, he feels that the increased payments would be manageable. Former discussion had been on paying down more toward the end of this year, but Bob asked to defer that discussion until next month. Payments on bills have dwindled, and the final payment to Colonial Roofing for their work on the roof has been paid. Both Fr. Joe and Bob voiced tremendous appreciation for the work that Colonial has done for the Church. Fr. Joe suggested a card be sent signed by the Vestry as a token of that appreciation.
- b. **Annual Fund Campaign** - Lynne Altimier
Lynne reported on an update from Dave Beall on the number of pledges returned to date, that number being 21 for a total of \$45,000 pledged. Gratitude Sunday is next Sunday, November 17, and expectations are that a large number of pledges will be returned then.
- c. **Annual Budget** - Lynne Altimier
Lynne stated that most of the numbers are in, but she is just waiting for more information before finalizing the projected budget. She said that, based on predictions at this point, we will be short of funds this year. Both Bob and Lynne feel that we will have a better idea by early December when more pledges are in. A brief discussion followed on items in the budget that might need to be adjusted, added or dropped.
- d. **Pastor's Sabbatical** - Bob Sawyer
Fr. Joe was asked to leave the room for this discussion. Bob Sawyer stated that Fr. Joe has been rector at Good Shepherd for the past five years. Dioceses contracts require that rectors take a sabbatical between four and seven years. The time involved is negotiated

with the Vestry. Bob wanted to bring this up now since we have a surplus this year that could be moved to a restricted fund to cover the expenses occurred by Fr. Joe's absence rather than be used to pay down the loan early. Bob foresees voting on this as part of the budget that will be voted on in January.

e. **Flood control systems** - Fr. Joe

Fr. Joe reported that using tape to seal the doors against water has been tested by Dave Beall and John Buntel. He said that the tape goes on very well when the door is dry and pretty well when the door is wet.. It also stayed well on the wet door. A bit of the paint on the door does come off when the tape is removed and a small amount of adhesive is sometimes left. The group will meet again to discuss results and other possible remedies.

f. **Nominating Committee** - Fr. Joe:

We have three positions to fill. Fr. Joe has talked with one individual about being on the vestry. This person has never served on a vestry before and is willing to do it but is a bit nervous about what is involved. Fr. Joe has also spoken with some individuals about the Junior Warden position. One declined for the present; another declined because of age. Fr. Joe has another person in mind to approach about the Junior Warden position as well as other possible candidates for the other Vestry positions.

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

Closing: Prayed the Lord's Prayer in a circle

Meeting adjourned at 8:18.

Respectfully submitted,
Judith Jarvis, Clerk of the Vestry