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VESTRY MEETING MINUTES

Monday, May 23, 2022

Vestry Present: Newman Aguiar, Gail Albergo, Leigh Bordley, Leigh Egeghy, Amanda Fratrack, Rebecca Hix, Adam McClellan (Jr. Warden), Wes Newman (Clerk), Shamioka Rhinehart, Liz Sappenfield, Connie Semans (Sr. Warden)

Vestry Absent: Richard Ammons

Clergy Present: Rev. Maryann Younger, Rev. Gabe Lamazares

Guests Present: Ginny Bowman (Treasurer)

CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of the Vestry of St. Philip's Church convened on May 23, 2022 at 6:10 pm in the Parish Hall, the Rector being in the chair and the Clerk being present. Connie opened the meeting with a reflection and prayer.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Minutes of April 25 meeting
- Treasurer's Report
- Summary Financial Statement
- Quarterly Endowment Portfolio Review
- Rector's Report
- Senior Warden's Report
- Junior Warden's Report

Maryann noted corrections to the agenda: Gabe will lead the discussion of Parish Processes, and the correct time for the Ascension worship service is 7 pm. Amanda requested the Treasurer's Report and Jr. Warden's Report be moved to the regular agenda for discussion. Liz moved approval of the regular and consent agendas as modified, Shamioka seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Treasurer's and Jr. Warden's Reports: Ginny and Adam responded to questions about over-budget expense items and about parish security arrangements on Sunday mornings.

Roof Repair Planning: Adam briefed the vestry on recently discovered roof leaks in the Parish House and breezeway areas. Initial roof repair estimates are in the \$55k - \$56k range. The roof of the church building will also need replacement at the time other renovations are done in the future, at a cost

reaching well into six figures.

Anonymous Bequest: the revised Finance Committee recommendation for the anonymous bequest was reviewed by Maryann and Ginny. Of the new total of \$771k, \$750k will be temporarily held in a short-term investment fund managed by our portfolio managers until a vestry decision is made on a permanent spending plan. The balance of \$21k will be donated to local food banks, a cross for the labyrinth area, and to the Flower Guild, all of which were particular interests of the late donor.

Amanda and Leigh Bordley expressed concerns about continuing to delay spending decisions for this bequest and for other gifts such as the Jacqueline Harris bequest. Leigh advocated for developing a parish policy under which such unrestricted bequests would be dispersed according to a formula, which might include "tithing" to outreach ministries. Maryann counseled patience, and observed that parishioners are still recovering from the pandemic shut-down and the loss of the former clergy, and need time to re-connect as a community.

Adam moved approval of the Finance Committee recommendation, with the understanding that the \$750k short-term investment is temporary and will require a decision for long-term resolution. Gail seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Investment Policy Revisions: Ginny presented a proposed revision to the parish investment policy, allowing gifts such as the recent anonymous bequest to be placed in low-risk short-term investments where they can earn at least a modest return. Adam moved acceptance, Liz seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Amanda suggested that the Treasurer report to the vestry at six-month intervals on the total amount of unrestricted non-endowment funds currently available for potential spending (incl. quasi-endowment and short-term investments), to keep this issue in front of the vestry until permanent decisions are made about spending these funds. Ginny agreed to do so and suggested September and March as appropriate months. Liz moved acceptance, Shemieka seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Vestry Election Bylaw Revisions: Adam tabled this item until the June meeting, and will circulate specific bylaw language for review in advance.

Parish Processes: Gabe presented a list of processes sorted by responsible group. Maryann asked that the four Ad Hoc working groups accept the items assigned to them and incorporate this into their committee work.

Afghan Refugee Opportunity: Maryann noted that two Afghan family groups in our community are coming to the end of their support from Church World Service. One of the groups is seeking help acquiring a used car to drive to work. St. Philip's is holding unspent funds from the original Afghan refugee initiative which could be used for this purpose. Shamioka moved that the rector be authorized to spend up to \$5000 to purchase a car. Adam seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Call for Volunteers: Maryann asked the vestry to consider volunteering, or to suggest names of potential volunteers, for tellers to handle weekly tallying and bank deposit of received pledge payments and plate offerings and for a study group to evaluate our fees for wedding and funeral services and for columbarium niches.

Pilgrimage Update: Adam reported on the successful recent bake sale, which puts us in good shape financially. The group leaves on their trip in three weeks.

Current Operations & Diocesan Recommendations: Maryann noted that COVID infections are increasing in our area and masking is now mandatory at all three Sunday services. Intinction by the priest has been instituted during the Eucharist.

Ad Hoc Vestry Committees: Committee chairs for Ministries, Infrastructure, Outreach and Staffing provided brief updates on the progress of their groups.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The vestry met in Executive Session to discuss pastoral concerns.

DISMISSAL AND ADJOURNMENT

Gabe closed with a prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Wes Newman, Clerk