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Monday, January 22, 2024 Vestry Minutes

Vestry members present: Gail Albergo, Lowell Dargbeh, Leigh Egeghy, Erin Gasch, Rebecca Hix (Clerk), Sarah Johnson, Adam McClellan, Wes Newman, Shamioka Rhinehart, Liz Sappenfield (Junior Warden), and Connie Semans (Senior Warden) and Richard Williams

Clergy present: The Rev. Maryann D. Younger, The Rev. John Campbell

Guests present: Ginny Bowman (Treasurer)

Call to Order: The regular monthly meeting of the Vestry of St. Philip's Episcopal Church convened on Monday, January 22, 2024 in the Library with the Rector presiding. Connie provided the opening prayer.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of the December Vestry meeting
2. Pastoral Letter from the Diocesan Bishops
3. Treasurer's Report & Simplified Financial Report covering December
4. Rector's Report
5. Senior Warden's Report
6. Junior Warden's Report

Rebecca asked for an update on St. Philip's response to the Bishop's Pastoral Letter. Maryann informed the Vestry that St. Philip's is not new to this work of racial reconciliation, and that much good work has been done, and there is still more to do.

Adam moved that we approve the consent agenda. Shamioka seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2024 Budget

Ginny asked the Vestry to hold February 1, 2024 at 6pm via Zoom for a special Vestry meeting to review and approve the 2024 budget.

TJT 2023 Engagement Letter

Ginny informed the Vestry that there is a significant increase in the engagement fee for our accounting firm, from \$14,000 to \$20,000. After discussion,

Liz moved that we approve the engagement letter. The motion was seconded by Erin with an amendment that the Vestry would not approve an increase above the \$20,000. The amended motion passed unanimously.

2024 Vestry Slate

Connie introduced a very strong slate of eight candidate willing to run for Vestry.

Shamioka moved that the Vestry accept the slate of candidates. Lowell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Maryann requested that the nominating committee double check with all candidates that they are baptized and confirmed and formal members of the church. Connie will work with Meghan on that.

Recognition of retiring Vestry members

Maryann informed the Vestry that this retiring class is the last class that called her as Rector and it is emotional to see them rotate off. Maryann thanked each retiring Vestry member.

- Gail is a thoughtful person who often reminded us of who we are, and who we might be.
- Adam revamped the way the Junior Warden position is structured. She appreciated that he is calm under pressure and very kind.
- Leigh has been dedicated to so many programs in the church, is able to be honest when giving an alternative view and has been supportive of Maryann.
- Connie has brought clear thinking and creativity to the role of Senior Warden for two years. She has been very hardworking and a fabulous partner in ministry. and

Election of 2024 Senior Warden

Maryann nominated Rebecca to serve as Senior Warden.

Connie moved that the Vestry accept the nomination of Rebecca. Shamioka seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Maryann explained that the new Vestry will be asked to nominate Liz as Junior Warden.

Maryann also reminded the Vestry that Ginny is rotating off as Treasurer and she is still looking for a replacement. Maryann thanked Ginny for her hard work at the heavy lift that has been being Treasurer the last three years. Maryann is working to reinvigorate the Finance Committee and will ask 1 member of each Vestry class to serve on that committee.

2024 Vestry schedule

Maryann asked the Vestry to put the dates of the 2024 Vestry meetings on their calendars. In addition, she asked Vestry members to hold April 20th for the Vestry/Staff Retreat.

2024 Annual Meeting

The Vestry broken into working groups to plan the Annual Meeting.

Meeting Talking Points for the Epistle

- Maryann, with the Vestry agreeing, **thanked the outgoing Vestry class** (Gail Albergo, Leigh Egeghy, Adam McClellan, and Connie Semans) for their leadership and commitment to St. Philip's. In addition she thanked Ginny Bowman, outgoing Treasurer for three distinguished years of service.
- The Vestry approved the **slate of eight candidates to run for the four seats of the outgoing Vestry**. Additional nominations from the floor can be submitted at the Preliminary Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 28th, at all three services.
- **The Vestry encourages the whole St. Philip's community to attend the Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 11th**. The first rounds of ballots will kick off at 9:00am in the fellowship hall, where there will be coffee and bagels. We will transition to the church for worship at 10am, which will include the Rector's state of the church report. The congregation will return to the Fellowship Hall for lunch, any final ballots and the balance of the Annual Meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was brought to a close with a prayer by Maryann and adjourned at **XXXX**. *(really – are you kidding me?! I didn't notate this again? The new clerk better be more on the ball!)*

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca S. Hix
Clerk