

Minutes from the Vestry Meeting of All Saints' Episcopal Church

7/21/2020

Online Meeting from Remote Locations/Home

In Attendance: Edgardo Adoptante, Stephen Chan, Fr. Mark Collins, Sara Combs, Elaine Cunningham, Mike Geiger (Treasurer) Donna Laporta, Paul Louis, Sue Morgan, Susan Moscatello, Eileen Murphy, Kathy Polo, Nancy Treacy, Ted Wagner

6:00pm

Opening Prayer

Amended and Approved June Meeting minutes

Finances

- Reviewed Financial Report
- No major changes to finances
- Expenses are mostly salary and utilities
- Pledges are up to date. By end of June, over 50% of pledges have been received
- We are cautiously optimistic that there will not be a deficit at the end of the year, as originally forecasted
- Received confirmation that All Saints' will receive a check from the Ward J Herbert Fund in the amount of (aprox) \$20k, which is 50% cost of the new roof
- Move to Accept the monthly financial report as submitted by the Treasurer (Mike Geiger)
- Monthly Report Accepted

Preschool

- Total reimbursements to date, \$28,500. Includes tuition and escrow monies
- Church staff did cleanup of Preschool space
- Parents intentionally left some clothing and diapers behind due to children outgrowing them
- These items will be donated
- School Board did walk-through of Preschool facilities to familiarize themselves with the space

Liaison Reports

Concert Committee (Elaine)

- The November 1st, 2020 concert has been postponed
- Jane Sullivan has reached out to The London Trio to notify them of the Nov. 1st concert cancellation; a request was made regarding the possibility of their performing in March 2021
- May 2021 concert is still scheduled

Buildings & Grounds

- The Garth has been getting some sprucing up
- Laurie DeBenedetto and Tom Brulato were married in the Garth on 7/18/20, by Fr. Mark
- Broken bench will be replaced with a Trex bench which is long lasting and made of recycled materials
- Plaque with names of persons interred in the Garth will get updated after a long search to find an appropriate matching style. New plaque inserts will be added for those names not yet commemorated on the plaque
- The church is now responsible for the maintenance of the playground

Outreach (Eileen)

- Eileen is still volunteering at St Paul's Food Pantry
- There is still a need for donations of food and diapers
- There has been a drop in the number of people coming to the pantry which seems to be connected to government relief some families have received based upon the number of free lunches their children would have received had they been in school during the last few months.

Worship (Online)

- Fr. Mark, Stephen Chan, Kathy Polo attended a Live Streamed Webinar hosted by the Episcopal Diocese of Newark which focused the subject of On-line /Live-streamed Church Services
- Attendees felt the presenter was knowledgeable and had strong credentials
- There was a focus on equipment so churches know how much they will need to invest
- Three recommended equipment tiers, Low \$, Medium \$\$, High \$\$\$
- Stephen feels the middle option will work for All Saints'
- Fr. Mark reported the church as recently acquired a new tablet/iPad to be used specifically for this purpose, so no money will need to be spent on that requirement
- Two cameras will be needed, which is one more that the middle package has.

Worship (In-person)

- Process of discernment
- A survey will be distributed, as well as forums to learn how parishioners feel about coming back
- Bishop says, "We must be fluid and flexible."
- Even when in-person worship resumes, live streaming of the service will still take place
- Weather permitting, we will try to maximize the number of services we can have outdoors
- Might investigate long-term rental of a tent
- Vestry members are to read through the guidelines for returning to in-person worship that came from the Newark Diocese
- It will be different than we were accustomed to, including, no handshakes, no hugs
- All church attendees will have to provide contact information which can be used for COVID-19 contact tracing, if necessary
- There will be a bathroom use policy
- Plexiglas screen will be installed by the organ to block spray from singer
- Stephanie Leotsakos will continue to be the (one) singer and must be 24 feet from congregation
- The first row of pews will not be used for seating
- Attendees must wear masks and may not sing

Meeting Wind Down

- No Vestry meeting in August
- Glimpses of grace
- Sue will distribute prayer partner names by mail
- Closing Prayer

Respectfully Submitted, Donna Laporta, Clerk of the Vestry