Vestry Meeting
St. Brendan-the-Navigator Episcopal Church
December, 2020

The vestry met via Zoom Wednesday, December 16, 2020, at 8:30 AM. Present were Pastor Elaine Hewes, Senior Warden Pete Dane, Junior Warden George Pazuniak, Bill Scaife, Tom van Buren, Jane LaChance, Meg Graham and Curtis Flowers. Elaine called the meeting to order, asking Jane to begin with a short meditation and prayer. The November minutes, previously having been circulated and corrected electronically, were approved.

Welcome/Hospitality
Jane reported that another storytelling offering was planned for January.

Education/ Spirituality
Jane reported that presently both Between the Lines and Sacred Ground will continue into January. Plans for offerings for the next six months are underway.

Outreach
Tom reported that projects are proceeding, food distribution especially. This is both food distributed in the community and the additional project to feed the Emergency Nursing workers in the present crisis. Also Tom observed that the ministry's work on process and its experiment in rotating leadership appears to engage all members more closely in the ministry's work. Soon the ministry will consider updating its mission statement. Regarding Outreach monies, Pete pointed out the need to put formal restriction on the $3934 from the paintings gift, so that it is properly channeled to Outreach. Pete moved, Meg seconded, the restriction; the vestry quickly approved.

Buildings/Grounds
George reported that his requested quote for roof replacement is delayed by the contractor's inability to handle the work before spring by which time there might be a price change. Therefore, the project is deferred.

Worship/Music
Pete reported the ministry quite busy, very alive and well.

Finance
Bill discussed the Proposed Budget for 2021, noting a somewhat higher deficit than usual. Discussion became general and led to eventual consensus that given the present circumstance in the pandemic vis à vis our parish history of giving, regular erasure of recent deficits, and the foresight of holding reserves in areas of uncertainty, in short, the overall outlook is encouraging. A paragraph of explanation for this will appear in the Navigator. Pete moved acceptance of the budget; Curtis seconded; motion carried unanimously. Pete offered the annual resolution for Housing Allowance for Priest-in-Charge; Jane seconded. Resolution passed unanimously.

Bill noted that thanks are due to Meg, Pete and Judy Miller in particular, for very hard work in putting together this budget.

George gave brief report that conversations on communication services are continuing between Katie Clark in the diocesan office and George, Miriam and Barbara Kourajian.

Elaine opened discussion about Bishop Thomas's meeting with the vestry on January 20, beginning with the 8 AM shared check in. Pete asked if there were questions we might choose to prepare for the bishop. Suggestion first focused on seeking Bishop Thomas' thoughts on new directions, dreams, visions and then on those that our ministries here might have that they would want to raise with him. We would do well to explore the diocesan website to learn what others are doing, especially Jubilee Centers. Tom asked if it were in order to encourage non-vestry members to join this meeting. It was agreed we ask Bishop Thomas's thoughts on this.

Elaine related that Anna Edgerly-Moore will not be returning as parish office assistant after her leave. Officially her time will end January 15. Discussion followed about our gratitude for her exceptionally able and conscientious service to us, ways to convey our thanks and our hopes for her future. Pete will send a memo suggesting how gifts can be channeled through Carolyn Mor.

Elaine shared the report from Marilyn Verhey that the illumination given as a memorial to Lynn is finished and ready.

Elaine closed the meeting and dismissed us with a Celtic blessing.

Respectfully submitted,
Curtis Flowers, clerk

ST. BRENDAN THE NAVIGATOR

CERTIFICATION OF VESTRY RESOLUTION

I certify that on December 16, 2020, the Vestry adopted the following resolution regarding the housing allowance for Pastor Elaine Hewes:

“That for 2021, the sum of $15,000.00 from the stipend of the Pastor in Charge shall be allocated as an allowance for housing and utilities, such amount to be a Parsonage Allowance within the meaning of §107 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as amended).”

Dated December 16, 2020

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Curtis Flowers, Clerk