

Church of the Advent • Vestry Minutes

2366 Kemper Lane • Walnut Hills, Cincinnati, OH 45206

October 20, 2020 @ 7 PM - ZOOM Virtual Meeting

Incorporated July 30, 1919

Because of the current pandemic Coronavirus (COVID-19) this Vestry Meeting was held by virtual conferencing via Zoom.
The meeting was chaired by Amanda Geraciotti, Senior Warden, and hosted (technology) by Chip Carson.

Present: Rev. Jason Oden, Amanda Geraciotti (Senior Warden), Michael Handley (Junior Warden)
Chip Carson (Treasurer), Paul Leffler (Technology), Paul Keller (Secretary), Tom Cunningham

7:05 Opening Prayer and Discussion

Real change, enduring change, happens one step at a time.

—Ruth Bader Ginsburg, as quoted in *Notorious RBG*

IN THE STEPS OF RBG

So, let me take one step right now,
one step toward respect.
And give me strength to take another
toward clarity. And though
my feet might feel like stones, let
me take another step toward justice.
And another toward equity. And another
toward truth. And though my legs
may feel leaden and slow, though someone
else may step on my toes, may I inch
toward forgiveness. May every step
be toward a bridge. Enough divisiveness.
And as I go, may I find joy in the stepping,
grace in the edging toward great change.
But if there's little joy, let me step anyway.
Then take another step. And another. And another.

—from *Poets Respond* September 20, 2020

- Question: *With our Baptismal Covenant in mind, what are your thoughts?*

1. 7:05 August & September Vestry Minutes – Paul Keller

After corrections were made to August minutes. Motion to accept: Tom C., seconded: Paul L. Passed.

After corrections were made to September minutes. Motion to accept Mike H. seconded Amanda G. Passed.

2. Open Door Report – presented by Tom Cunningham

- ODM is now opened 5 days a week. Protocols are being followed and everyone is healthy.
- Fund Raisers: Wreath Sale will soon start, and a 2021 Calendar of Advent's window will be offer for sale.

3. Buildings and Grounds Report – Michael/Jason/Chip

- Michael – leaking window reported earlier is repaired.
- Jason – the painting has been completed, office looks great, more information later in Priest-in-Charge Report. Cost of cleaning the downspouts involved more than originally expected and the originally bid was increased by \$250 to \$2850.
- Chip - Stained-glass window repair. Bids were sought from all over the country and I recommend The bid from Architecture Art Glass of \$1200 – \$1500 here in Pleasant Ridge to be accepted. Tom C. made a motion for Chip to move forward; seconded by Paul K.; motion carried.
- A discussion followed concerning the cost of conserving the rest of the windows in the sanctuary When first brought up by Ken Wright the original estimate was around \$119K. Chip volunteered to look into this. AAG had already said their operation was not big enough to handle that kind of job.
- Rev. Jason having read old Building and Ground Reports, sighted Ken Wright's suggestion of repairing the Church doors and wanted to know if anything had been done.
 - Door renovation is complete.

4. Senior Warden Report – Amanda

- As required by the Diocese, Amanda went over an audit of the Pastor-in-charge's Discretionary Fund and had letter sent a letter to the Diocese office saying everything was in order.

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5. **Treasurer's Report** – Chip

- **September's Cash Flow** Income 10,324, Expenses 40,580, **Deficit \$30, 264** debt 30K
 - CotA was adhering to the 2019 Projected Budget until Covid-19.
 - Reminder of the 4 sources of Endowment which will get us through
- Upcoming Stewardship Campaign – Chip will be meeting with Rev. Oden to work out details
- Chip made a proposal that Administration be allowed to spend up to \$500 without the approval of Vestry. Tom seconded; the proposal passed unanimously.

6. **Priest – in – Charge Report** - Jason

- We are working w/ the new Office³⁶⁵ and have created a Vestry Site called “One-Drive”, where each month will have its own folder.
- Worship through the end of the year will be conducted when appropriate
 - Zoom, Live Streaming, combination of the two and when allow in Church
- Stewardship - What are CotA's goals for 2021, Pledging, and looking at Time and Talent
 - a discussion of Rev. Oden's approach followed, and Vestry felt energized by Jason's intention of pulling from the Baptismal Covenant to guide the Parish's approach.
- Other parish issues
 - A recommended charity (perhaps making Holiday donations in someone's name):
<https://support.episcopalrelief.org/gifts>
 - Review of 2019 Annual Report to get ready for the Parish Meeting in January
 - Following through with Rev. Stacy Salles recommendation *Dying to Restart*.
 - Jason asked for a clarification of the status of the Capital Campaign Committee's recommendation

that was mentioned in 2019. The history of the campaign was discussed, and it was decided that the topic will be revisited as recommended by the Committee.

7. **8:45 Motion to Adjourn** by Tom, seconded by Paul L., unanimously passed.

Closing Prayer from BCP

For the Parish

Almighty and ever living God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.