

Good Shepherd of the Hills Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting Minutes by Zoom

April 27, 2021

“The Church exists to know God, love God, and to serve God.”

Attending: Fr. John Christopher, Interim Rector; Beth Hatcher, Senior Warden; Rob Madden, Junior Warden; Alan Northcott, Treasurer; Barbara Popejoy, Clerk. Members: Karen Dorian, Liz Northcott, Mary Pierce, Mike Powell, Lynn Walsh.

Opening

Call to Order: 6:00 P.M. – Quorum

- Vestry Minute Update – Mary Pierce will deliver update to the congregation on May 2, 2021

Presentation

Canon Anita Braden – Rector Search – A comprehensive overview of the process of conducting a search for a new rector was presented. This is a standardized process established by The Episcopal Church, which includes some features unique to the Diocese of Arizona. Steps include:

- Day of Discovery – a gathering of the congregation to identify the core values, hopes and dreams for the future, along with attributes and skills desired in a rector.
- Search Committee is established.
- Develop a Church Profile – that portrays the history, mission, finances (both historical and current), life and activities of the church.
- Assessment of the website.
- Post the Profile and other pertinent information on various Episcopal Church periodicals, websites and social media platforms.
- Review of inquiries and applications by the Diocese, for referral to the Search Committee.
- Review, assessment, and vetting of applicants’ submissions for necessary skills and experiences by Search Committee.
- Referral of top candidates to the Vestry for meeting, and interviewing to determine leadership attributes and discern desirable fit.
- Further vetting and background checks.
- Selection is made and referred to the Bishop.

This Discernment process is deep and thorough and takes time. With the assistance of the Diocese, the Bishop, Canon Anita, and a Search Consultant, the Search Committee and Vestry, guided by the Holy Spirit, will work diligently, within the bounds of

confidentiality, to bring about a shepherd who will lead us in God's Will for us. Periodic updates to the congregation will keep all informed on the progress of the process.

Bible Study – Fr. John conducted a brief Bible Study

Consent Agenda – Ministry and Committee Reports

- Approval of March Minutes
- Children's Ministry Report
- Youth Ministry Report
- Native American Council Report
- Stewardship Ministry Report
- Rector's Report – Agenda item moved to New Business
- Sr. Warden's Report

- Motion to accept Ministry and Committee reports with amendment to move Rector's report – Beth Hatcher; Second – Mary Pierce
- Motion Carried

Old Business

Red Cross Update – Liz Northcott

Liz contacted a Red Cross representative for the purpose of determining whether the Good Shepherd parking lot and grounds would be appropriate for the organization's use during emergencies such as wild fires. Rob Madden, in his capacity of Junior Warden will contact the representative to conduct a virtual tour of the grounds.

New Business

Approval of March Financial Statements – Alan Northcott

- Motion to approve – Mary Pierce; Second- Karen Dorian
- Motion carried

Further discussion topics:

- Conducting an Audit
- Cancellation of line of credit
- Necessity of establishing signatories at the bank
- Annual forecast/need to transfer more funds

A vigorous discussion followed regarding ways to deal with our current budget shortfall utilizing Endowment Funds.

- Motion: For the years 2021, and only for 2021, the Vestry modifies the Endowment Resolution to allow Vestry Designated funds income to be used for general budget purposes. (Per Section 8 of the Endowment Resolution. A

motion will need to be approved by a majority of Vestry Members at two successive Vestry meetings).- Mike Powell; second - Lynn Walsh

- Motion carried.
- Second Motion: Authorize transfer of \$30,000 from Shepherd's Crossing to the church general account – Mike Powell; second – Lynn Walsh
- Motion carried

Given the complexity of our current financial situation, Barbara Popejoy proposed a strategic approach.

- Motion: Charge the Finance Committee to develop plans/scenarios to manage the budget shortfall, and make recommendations to the Vestry – Beth Hatcher; second – Karen Dorian.
- Motion Carried;

Junior Warden's Report (included in attached reports)

Discussion of the merits of repair and painting of the church and from what funds will the financial resources come. (Bids for the work were previously forwarded) The decision was made to table the discussion until the next meeting. The Vestry is encouraged to walk around the campus to look at the necessity of the work at this time.

Rector's Report – Fr. John

Diocese of Arizona's "Gathering for Abundant Life Phase 2.5, Guidelines for Congregations" was distributed and discussed.

- Motion to accept – Beth Hatcher; second – Liz Northcott,
- Motion carried

Vestry Book Study – *the Post Quarantine Church* by Thom H. Rainer

Members send thoughts and ideas to Mike Powell who will collate and distribute.

- Motion: schedule a special meeting May, 11 to discuss ministry opportunities as encouraged in *The Post Quarantine Church* – Lynn Walsh; second – Karen Dorian
- Motion carried

Closing Prayer – Lynn Walsh

Meeting Adjourned: 8:20 P.M.

Next Meetings: May 11, Mission and Ministry; May 27, regular Vestry Meeting

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Popejoy, Clerk