

Good Shepherd of the Hills Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting Minutes by Zoom

May 25, 2021

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

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

Absent: Rob Madden, Junior Warden

Opening

Call to Order: 6:00 P.M. – Quorum

- Opening Prayer: Father John
- Vestry Minute Update – Beth Hatcher will deliver the update of Vestry Meeting to the congregation on June 7, 2021
- Bible Study – Barbara Popejoy led the Lectio Divina reading of the Bible

Consent Agenda – Ministry and Committee Reports (attached)

- Approval of April Minutes with an amendment
- Native American Council Report
- Senior Warden’s Report
- Junior Warden’s Report

- Motion to approve amended Consent Agenda – Beth Hatcher; Second – Lynn Walsh.
- Motion Carried

Ministry

Ministry Team Updates:

- Spiritual Formation – Lynn Walsh
 - Weekday healing service
 - Re-establish Spirited Ladies group
- Children/Youth – Jarrod and Ashley Phillips
 - Jarrod - request for a designated Youth Space within Maitland Hall
 - Ashley – return small pews for children to the sanctuary, deep clean and sanitize the children’s areas
- Community Engagement - Mary Pierce
 - Suggest game night, Trivia night
- Senior Citizens – Fr. John, Karen Dorian, Beth Hatcher

- Engage Stephanie Nesbit to utilize connections with Foothills Caring Corps to learn from senior members of the community what are unmet needs with which Good Shepherd may help.
- Consider repeating luncheons in Maitland Hall for seniors to socialize and meet new people.

Vestry Book Study (continued – The Post Quarantine Church)

- Discussion of reconnecting with the neighborhood near the church generated many ideas.
 - “Open Doors Wide Sunday,” a celebratory grand “re-opening”- bring friends and family.
 - Re-engage with Bella Vista Academy – possibility of service credit opportunities for students.
 - Friday night jam sessions in the courtyard.
 - Encourage cross-generational activities.
 - Re-connect with our Hispanic neighbors with a big push toward El Dia de los Muertos in the Fall.
 - Discussion also included the need to recruit folks for essential ecclesiastical roles, altar guild, flower guild, altar servers etc.

Old Business

Paint Good Shepherd - the discussion was moved to next Vestry Meeting

Scholarship Committee – nothing to report

New Business

Approval of April Financial Reports

- Motion to accept – Karen Dorian; Second – Barbara Popejoy
- Motion carried

Finance Committee Presentation - Recommendation for Financial course of action.

- Finance Committee met 5/13 to discuss various scenarios to manage financial resources to meet the church’s needs going forward. Alan Northcott created a spreadsheet (attached) to analyze. It appears as though cost containment is doing about all it can.
- The most viable options include a significant increase in pledge income, utilizing income from Shepherd’s Crossing, and withdrawing from investment funds for the time being.
- Stewardship committee needs to take a good look at pledging behaviors and motivation to determine how to “up the ante” and to operate with a sense of urgency as pledging is the most important source of income.

- We know that ministry yields pledging. It is important to keep the messaging about our outreach and ministries in front of our parishioners.
- The motion from April Vestry meeting to withdraw funds from the Vestry Designated Endowment Fund was discarded and not approved with a second vote.
- Motion to authorize the treasurer to withdraw from the Undesignated Endowment Fund, the remainder of income for 2021 (\$13,059), and principal up to \$200,000, to be withdrawn as needed for 2021. (The motion to withdraw principal requires a vote at two consecutive meetings). – Beth Hatcher; second – Mary Pierce.
- Motion carried.

Updated Mask Policy

- Motion: For those who have received the vaccine, masks may be removed. Honor system in place. Social distancing will be continued until further notice. – Lynn Walsh; Second – Liz Northcott.
- Motion carried.

Upcoming Calendar Events

- Day of Discovery, initial in-person gathering for the collection of data points to build a Church Profile for the Rector Search, to be held June 5, 2021.
- Closing Prayer for next Vestry Meeting, June 22, 2021 – Lynn Walsh

Closing Prayer – Beth Hatcher

Respectfully Submitted,
Barbara Popejoy,

Clerk