

CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

VESTRY MINUTES

August 12, 2020

Vestry members in attendance: Rector David Lynch, Senior Warden John Biggs, Junior Warden Les Woodward, Bill Carle, Gabe Conn, Tess Garcia, Jim Gilligan, David Henson, and Arla Witte-Simpson

Absent: Jim Whitaker

OPENING: After a devotion and prayer, the meeting was called to order by Fr. David Lynch at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVE MINUTES of Previous Meeting:

It was moved by Gabe Conn and seconded by David Henson that the minutes of the meeting be approved after the following changes: Change the date atop page one from "July 7" to "July 8" and under *Parish Life*, change "3 p.m. through 8 p.m." to "6 p.m. through 8 p.m.". Vestry Members unanimously approved the minutes with these changes.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report: Jim Gilligan (SEE ATTACHED): At the end of July, the parish had \$185,473 in cash and investments, \$165,117 of which is unrestricted or temporarily restricted. Plate and pledge contributions remain strong.

Significant July expenses included:

\$500 for Renewal Works materials. This money will be refunded by the Diocese of West Missouri.

\$508 for a renewal of the AED 5-year protection and maintenance plan

\$6,000 donation to the Community Services League of Blue Springs

All other expenses were in line with (or below) budgeted amounts.

Regarding expectations for stewardship, Gilligan felt that receipts would be steady for the balance of 2020 and he did not anticipate a significant loss of income in 2021 due to loss of parishioners. This year's Stewardship Campaign may again make use of The Episcopal Network for Stewardship (TENS) materials. Vestry Members discussed the options for appropriate timing of our Stewardship Campaign in relation to an expected Capital Campaign.

Tess Garcia moved, and Arla Witte-Simpson seconded, a motion to approve the financial report; it was approved unanimously by voice vote.

VESTRY VACANCY:

Fr. David and John Biggs reported that Jim Whitaker is not interested in continuing on the Vestry; his term expires at the end of 2020. Biggs reported that notes from an earlier Annual Meeting indicated that Elaine Marshall had agreed to serve as a Vestry Member Alternate. Although Vestry Bylaws do not address Alternate Members, the Vestry agreed to ask Elaine Marshall to serve a three-month term; if she has no current interest, the position will be left vacant until the next Annual Meeting. Gabe Conn, Tess Garcia and David Henson will serve as the current nominating committee. Biggs encouraged Vestry Members to review Section 5 of the Bylaws regarding vacancies.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: (SEE ATTACHED REPORTS)

This was a consent meeting. Reports from Vestry liaisons were emailed to all Vestry Members prior to the meeting. Jim Gilligan moved, and Tess Garcia seconded, a motion to accept the Committee Reports. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

LEADERSHIP REPORTS:

Jr Warden: Work continues inside and outside of the church. No progress has been made on repair of the refrigerator.

Sr Warden: Nothing to add.

Rector:

Visitations- Pastoral Care – Rector continues to call on members on a regular basis.

Diocesan Activities- Diocese of Western MO is making structural organization changes to allow electronic voting during the upcoming Diocesan Convention. This convention is expected to last only one day. Similar changes are likely at the Deanery level and meetings will likely remain virtual for ease of joining.

Local Community- Fr David's Chaplain Duty is limited at this time due to the virus. He discussed the status of other local churches in Blue Springs.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

Absence-Fr David:

Fr. David is requesting an absence of up to two weeks each during August, September, October, and November in order to deal with family issues in Michigan. Each absence would include a single Sunday; Fr. Doug Johnson has already agreed to act as Supply on these Sundays.

The current contract between the parish and Fr David allows for 20 days of paid personal leave with 5 additional days for continuing education. These 25 days have already been used in 2020.

Tess Garcia moved and David Henson seconded the following resolution which passed unanimously by voice vote:

RESOLVED, that, for 2020, the Vestry approves Fr David's use of his 5 continuing education days as vacation days.

The Vestry then considered whether to approve Fr David's request for additional absence and our options for his adjusted compensation. This discussion included his monthly and daily (pro-rated) pay and the costs involved in Supply services.

After this discussion, Bill Carle moved, and John Biggs seconded, the following resolution which was approved unanimously by voice vote:

RESOLVED, that the Vestry agrees to Fr David's leave of absence of up to 10 working days per month (to include one Sunday per absence) through the end of 2020. The Rector's compensation will be adjusted on a daily/prorated basis for each day of absence.

Absence – Vaughn Scarcliff

Vaughn will be gone the next two weeks acting as executor for his 94-year old aunt's estate in Alabama. He may need additional weeks off in this capacity. We do not currently have a contract with Vaughn. Following a discussion, Jim Gilligan moved, and Tess Garcia seconded the following motion which was approved unanimously by voice vote:

RESOLVED, that John Biggs and Fr. David are authorized to negotiate a contract with Vaughn Scarcliff.

Capital Campaign

In addition to the comments above, we are still waiting for further information from the architect to be followed by a bid from the selected contractor.

Social Media Policy

There have been no further changes to the Social Media Policy draft since the July Vestry meeting. Witte-Simpson will send a final draft to Vestry members prior to the September meeting; a vote on this final draft will be held at that time.

Adding & Removing Church decorations and adornments

Following a discussion on the history of modifications to the worship space following the 2012 renovation, Tess Garcia made the following motion, which was seconded by David Henson and approved unanimously by voice vote:

RESOLVED, that any request for permanent changes to the decorations and adornments to the nave will be brought before the Vestry for approval and that temporary or seasonal changes to nave decorations will be approved by the worship committee. Other changes to the building's decorations and adornments will be cleared through the Jr. Warden along with the Building & Grounds Committee.

Snagit software – Gary Zumwalt has requested \$50 for the purchase of this computer screen-capture software. The Vestry expressed approval of the purchase and no motion was needed.

Goal of re-opening for in-person services- Vestry Members reviewed preliminary results of the online “Return to church survey” conducted the prior two weeks. Responses were received from 38 households. To the question “*When would you prefer to return to in-person church?*”, 14 respondents said they would like to return “As soon as possible”, while 14 said “Once the state is fully reopened” and 9 said “Once there is a vaccine”. To the question “*Do you consider yourself or family member(s) to be in a high-risk group?*”, 32 said “yes” or “some of us” while 5 said “No”. Twenty said it would be unlikely they would attend a coffee hour and 29 said it was unlikely they would attend a movie night at church.

The Vestry re-committed to the goal of reopening on September 13th. The Strategic Planning Team and the Altar Guild will meet to develop necessary plans and procedures.

Following a prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

NEXT VESTRY MEETING – September 9, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Carle for

Kelly Blankenship, Secretary