

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
VESTRY ZOOM MEETING
Monday, October 19, 2020

Vestry Members Present: Jack Boyne, Jan Harris, Christie Barbee, Jamey Bass, Maggie Fyfe, Anna Howard, Caryn Meade, Chas Sharp, Michael Springston, Sheldon Smith, Rob Zucker, Cle Newsom-Registrar.

Absent: None

Clergy and Staff Present: The Rev. Imogen Rhodenhiser
Rev. Joyce C. Cunningham
Rev. Brooks Graebner

The meeting was called to order by Rev. Imogen Rhodenhiser at 6:03pm.

I. Opening Prayer:

Rev. Imogen led us in prayer for the life of Kevin LeCount and the blessing of having Rev. Brooks Graebner join us as our soon-to-be Priest in Charge.

II. Approval of the August Minutes

A motion was made by Anna Howard to approve the September minutes and the October agenda. Seconded by Jan Harris. Motion carried.

III. Rector's Report

Rev. Imogen thanked everyone for the lovely baby shower last Saturday. She especially thanked the Vestry for their gift of 17 hours of house-cleaning.

She is working out the details of her parental leave. Rev. Joyce will work fulltime during her absence and Rev. Brooks will work half time. He will start on November 29, the first Sunday of Advent and will include Sundays and two weekdays. Rev. Imogen is developing an internal document for responsibilities and points of contact while she is on parental leave.

For now, we will stick with the outdoor worship services and will be aided by heating lamps. We will begin indoor worship at some time in the future in a thoughtful and sustainable way.

Online worship continues. In September, we modified the service slightly with more speaking and less singing to reduce preparation time. Rev. Brooks will be the "go-to" person for re-opening and worship services. As mentioned in last month's meeting, the Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and December 27th services will be online.

We are making plans for the Christmas Eve service to be an online pageant. Ian Finley is working with families to read scripts from home. The December 27th service will feature "Lessons and Carols".

Maggie Fyfe asked if we would be allowed to make Advent Wreaths this year. Rev. Imogen asked her to contact Terrill Lloyd to help organize such an event. Caryn Meade and Christie Barbee offered to help.

At the end of her report, Rev. Imogen asked Rev. Brooks to introduce himself. He thanked her and others for their kind words of support and the confidence they had instilled in him. He said he had the “joy and privilege” of working with CGS and Rev. Louis “Corky” Melcher in the 1980’s. In fact, he said Rev. Corky, Steve Harris and others helped shape his early years. He is looking forward to serving with the Vestry. Rev. Imogen noted he will lead the Vestry meetings.

IV. Interim Associate Rector’s Report (Written report attached and made a part of these minutes)

Rev. Joyce said she would lead an in-person service on All Saint’s Day that will include the Baptism of 3 young people. Only the family members will be allowed to attend the 9am service, with an overall limit of 25 people. We will have outdoor services at 8am and 10am that day.

The CGS had 24 attendees on a recent One Wake online meeting. Our CGS team was recognized as having made the most calls to folks to encourage them to register to vote.

V. Senior Warden Report (Written report attached and made a part of these minutes)

Jack reviewed the highlights of his report. The various partnerships will be discussed later in this meeting.

VI. Junior Warden Report (Written report attached and made a part of these minutes)

Jan noted that she needed help on October 24 for outdoor cleaning of the church and the grounds. Work would include trimming bushes, putting out mulch and planting flowers. Chas Sharp offered to loan his tools, but he would be unable to attend. Other details are offered in her report.

VII. Treasurer’s Report (Written report attached and made a part of these minutes)

Jamey Bass stated gave a brief overview of the Finance Committee report. We are running approximately \$40,000 net income over the budgeted amount. We received \$20,000 from Campbell Law School in September that was not originally forecast in the 2020 budget.

Jamey also reported on the **Finance Committee’s recommendation** to the Vestry for retiring the debt on the Parish Life Center. The attached strategic plan document is meant to be a guideline and road map for future Vestries to follow. The schedule the committee proposes attempts to first use funds that were given and earmarked specifically for the purpose of loan payments and to protect the Endowment Fund

Trust assets as much as possible. The payment and resource schedule is shown on the last page of the strategic plan document.

Questions were raised about the funding for a Youth Minister. Although Terrill Lloyd was hired for the Children's Ministry, we still need someone dedicated to the teenagers and EYC. The Sure Foundation campaign included funds for a Youth Minister in 2020. Jack mentioned that we could include funds for a Youth Minister in the 2021 budget, if we so choose. A motion was made by Anna Howard to accept the Finance Committee's recommendation for the PLC debt retirement. Jack seconded the motion. Motion passed.

IX. Stewardship Update

Christie reported the kick-off of the Stewardship campaign would be this week, with a letter from Rev. Imogen being mailed to all parishioners. A second letter will follow in two weeks and it will include the pledge card. Our CGS website will offer an online pledge card. All pledges should be turned in on November 15, 2020, Commitment Sunday. We will offer a drive-by event where parishioners can drop off their pledge card and in exchange, go home with some Brunswick stew. During the pledge period, we will be recording and offering testimonies from various parishioners to encourage others to pledge.

X. Gathering Space/Ennis Parlor

Jan stated the remodeling of the room is moving along. The walls have been painted and paid for. The upholstery of the furniture is still in progress. The CGS is expecting bequeathed funds from the Eric Ennis estate. Jack suggested we use those funds to pay for the remainder of the remodeling efforts. He further suggested that the room be renamed as the **Ennis Parlor**, or a similar moniker. Eric Ennis was a long-time choir director at the CGS. Christie made the motion that we accept and use funds from the Ennis estate to pay for the remaining costs of remodeling the Gathering Space room. Before the motion was seconded, Jan made an amendment to the motion to also rename the Gathering Space room to the Ennis Parlor. Chas seconded both motions. The motion to rename the room to the Ennis Parlor was voted on and the motion passed. Secondly, the motion to take all remaining renovation expenses from the Ennis estate was voted on and the motion passed.

XI. CGS Emergency Operation Plan (EOP) (Written report attached and made a part of these minutes)

Jan has been working with Carolyn Manley on the EOP report, which was patterned after the Silver Level version from the Episcopal Relief and Development US Disaster Program. She mentioned that someone else would need to take over this effort, as she will be rotating off the Vestry. The development and management of the program could be a committee with volunteers from the congregation. We need to record a video of the inventory of the CGS.

XII. Partnership Updates - CLS, RBC, RMC

Jack reported the Campbell Law School wishes to renew the contract through the spring semester. Their attendance has been in the low 60's versus the NC Episcopal diocesan limitation of 25 persons. However, we are able to accommodate the Campbell Law School's higher attendance and remain in compliance with NC

executive order, which allows up 1/3 of the fire code attendance maximum (240 people). A motion was made by Anna to renew the lease with Campbell Law School with the same monthly lease amount for the spring semester. Jamey seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The Raleigh Boy Choir contract is still under negotiation. The Raleigh Mennonite Church contract is ready and on hold until they can safely start meeting in person again. The contract will be dated then.

XIII. Parish Calls/Phone Tree

Christie reported that although all of the parish calls were to be completed by now, there are 5 callers finishing up. There are good reasons for the delay. She encouraged the Vestry members to volunteer to help finish this effort. Her husband, Will Barbee has graciously volunteered and is uploading the results received from these calls into our database within 24 hours of receipt. Christie would like the calls to be completed, and results uploaded, prior to the first letter of the stewardship campaign. She will be paying particular attention to any returned mail.

The Phone Tree effort is building on the data from the Parish Calls. In the case of an emergency, a survey has been developed to ascertain how each parishioner would like to be notified. (Refer to September 2020 minutes). Rev. Imogen will talk with Kirk Royal about the timing to send the survey out. Anna stated a group text and email group could be established for those wishing to know news via a text.

There was discussion and a desire to have only one membership list. Michael Springston asked if we should disconnect the link to the photo directory. Rev. Imogen stated to leave it up for now, as we consider how to proceed.

XIV. Closing Prayer

Rev. Joyce led us in a closing prayer.

At 7:58pm, the Vestry meeting ended and the Vestry went into Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Cle E. Newsom

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Registrar