

Grace Episcopal Cathedral Minutes of the Vestry Meeting – August 18, 2020

Present: Rick Backlund, Suzanne DeWeese, Tammy King, Cyndi Langston, Ron Langston, Dean Torey Lightcap, Mother Ashley Mather, Gwen McClain, Lance Royer, Steve Roth, Chris Shermoen, Susan Weber

The meeting (held via Zoom due to the COVID 19 pandemic) opened with prayer.

July Minutes: An executive session was held at the end of the July 2020 vestry meeting which was not mentioned in the minutes that were sent to the vestry for approval. Therefore, the following action was taken:

A motion was made and seconded to accept the July 2020 vestry minutes as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

A motion was made and seconded to amend the approved July 2020 vestry minutes to include the section about the July executive session, once the executive session minutes are approved by the vestry. Motion unanimously carried.

Treasurer's report: For the month of July, operating income was \$69,862.91 and operating expense was \$72,097.18, resulting in a negative balance of \$2,234.27. Operating income for the year to date is \$505,270.09 and operating expense was \$430,961.01, resulting in a positive balance of \$774,309.08. Cash in the bank on July 31, 2020 was \$185,882.49.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion unanimously carried.

Current status of parish: The vestry held a discussion on feedback they've received from members during this pandemic. Among the comments: there are those who miss being inside the sacred space; people are excited to be back inside even if it's in All Saints Hall during Sunday morning rain-outs; there is appreciation that we have been taking the current situation seriously. Dean Lightcap said the outdoor Sunday morning services will continue through September. There is some concern with proper airflow in All Saints Hall if the AC doesn't cool things down quickly.

Reports from Vestry reps:

- **Endowment:** Regarding a proposal from the Endowment Trustees on tracking income that can be withdrawn from the Endowment Fund, the following motion was made:
Effective September 30, 2020, with respect to the endowment funds held at the Episcopal Church Foundation (ECF) the Vestry approves a formula using the average market value as of 9/30 for the preceding three years to determine the annual distribution amount, and the maximum annual withdrawal from said fund will be no greater than 5% of the three-year average market value. Motion seconded and unanimously carried.
- **Outreach:** Gwen reported that \$7500 in Outreach funds have been donated to the Topeka Rescue Mission. Deacon Yvonne is going to research the parish profile surveys from last year to determine member's interest in specific outreach projects.
- **Building and Grounds:** Chris said currently the committee is not meeting unless something specific comes up. He suggested that Greg Bennett (Saturday morning sexton) provide input on what kind of power washer to purchase and will have Kent contact Greg and provide him with a list of bids the committee has received.
- **Fellowship:** Susan said she has been in contact with the Fellowship Committee chair to consider some light-hearted things that can be done via email among the membership to keep in contact.

Curate report: Mother Ashley conducted a wedding and baptism at the Cathedral in August.

Dean's report: The dean has finished a two-week vacation. Former Cathedral dean Bob Shahan recently passed away. His service will be held in Overland Park and he will be inurned in the Cathedral's columbarium.

No other business to report.

Vestry adjourned. The next vestry meeting will be Tuesday, September 15, 5:30 p.m., via Zoom.

— Respectfully submitted by Connie Vosburgh, *Vestry Recorder*