

## May 18, 2020 Vestry Meeting Minutes

Present at the virtual meeting: Patty Alexander, Vince Leonard, Sue Carroll, Karen Edwards, Robin Reed, Chuck Cash, Frenchie Gogos, Joanne Comstock, Walter Douglas, Cliff White, Fred Bentley, Rosi Sweeney, Donna Alvarez, Carl Adams. April 2020 Vestry Meeting minutes were approved. Karen will be timekeeper, Frenchie will do the opening prayer in June, and Joanne will do the evaluation. Patty asked us to check in by mutual invitation focusing on new joys and/or challenges we are facing in this time of social distancing. The Dwelling in the Word discussion was on 1 Corinthians 12:4-11.

### Rector's Report

Patty started with thanks for the support and encouragement of the Vestry and special thanks to Joey Arkfeld for the "Parlor Concerts" of May 3 and May 17. The Seminarian Lay Support Team of Lynne Leonard (Convener), Julie Anderson, Joanne Comstock and Mark MacCarthy were thanked for their work with Robin; they have submitted their final report. Robin will be staying on this summer of 2020 and the upcoming year. Patty said that Fergie Horvath will also be a Seminarian at St. Dunstan's. A new Seminarian Lay Support Team will be needed, but Lynne Leonard has agreed to be Convener again on that team.

Patty asked us to note the upcoming events including the Manna Food Center collection on May 22, 2020 and the COVID-19 Relief Fund Challenge which has a mail-in deadline of May 22 also. An anonymous parishioner has agreed to match donations up to \$1000. Robin's online Forum Hour will be Sunday, May 24 and Sunday, May 31 at 11:15AM. The text for Sunday, May 31 will be Pentecost, "reading in tongues".

Referring to our being a church in a time of pandemic, Patty said that there are COVID-19 Emergency Relief Funds. Please let her know if you hear of anyone in the parish or community who is struggling financially. She reminded us of the deadline for the challenge match. Patty, Carl, Rosi, Cliff, Sue and Chuck participated in a congregational check-in conversation with the Ven. Sue von Rautenkranz, and we heard a report. Rosi said that she felt that we are blessed and that our parish is doing better than so many. Sue added that she felt grateful also. Patty said that the conversation was an affirming experience; we are blessed in our well-kept buildings and grounds and in our rental income. We now need a small working group to plan for phased regathering. If you would like to be part of this group, email Patty. The diocese has supplied guidelines, but this group will advise on the best ways for St. Dunstan's to adapt within these guidelines. Patty said that, in a Zoom coffee meeting with Bishop Chilton, she learned that there will be no paper bulletins, no books, no touching at the peace, no passing the plate or singing any time soon. Joey has been notified and is working to provide inspiring music within the boundaries. Both John Blakeslee and Sidney Clarke-Lequerique have announced that they won't be working as paid choir members because of personal decisions. Some time in the future, we will have them back to honor them for their service. Patty answered questions from various people, and we learned that we will have social distancing, we can pray aloud, we can use the outdoors, we can have bread in some sanitary form but no cup; and we can broadcast from the church. Patty pointed out that we are lucky to have screens. Kim Matthews is pricing sanitizer stations and stocking up on wipes. Rosi said that we are fortunate to have broad decisions coming to us from the diocese.

There was an update on Manor Montessori School and Wonders. Wonders has received money from the Payroll Protection Program and has decided to pay for May and June rents in full. Manor received a 50% rent reduction in May and would like a reduction in June. (Later in the meeting, Cliff recommended that we give them the June rent reduction.) Kim has received three proposals from cleaning services, all of which are less costly than the one we are using now. About the website redesign, Patty said that Rev. Maryetta Anschutz, an Episcopal priest who is an expert in web design, has offered to help us pro bono with the web redesign. Patty thanked Chuck for all he has done so far on the website. Chuck, Patty and Kim will be working with Maryetta.

## Vestry Members' Reports

### Stewardship: Report on CEEP (Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes) Webinar

Sue reported that much of this webinar on finances in the time of COVID-19 was not applicable to us because the churches were very large, big city churches. The emphasis was on communication, much of which can be online through virtual group meetings. There has been difficulty figuring out how to do group fundraiser events in this time. Overall, Sue felt that our church is doing a good job.

### Buildings and Grounds

Chuck reported that John Wyss has worked very hard to stabilize the rain gutter situation. There are now devices to see into the gutters without climbing a ladder. Chuck thought that we may need signs to keep people off the grass in the near future. He does not want the signs to have harsh messaging. A talk with Scott MacMillan revealed that his sons had cut up the felled tree. An idea would be to have people come to take away wood and leave a donation. Possibly, this could be an outdoor social event with some creative planning.

### Treasurer's Report

Cliff displayed a budget summary of the April 2020 financial report and discussed April cash receipts. He said that income for the month was above budgeted projections, partially from the Audrey Rosselot bequest, but the majority was from early pledge receipts. Expenses for the month were at or below budget. We have primarily saved money on choir expense, cleaning and maintenance. We have also saved on HVAC expense and snow removal. Cliff said that since the Manor Montessori School has been a long-term, consistent and reliable tenant, we should continue giving them a 50% discount on rent in June. There was no objection from anyone on this proposal. There is good news on the Payroll Protection Program application. It was approved, and the money is in the bank checking account. What part of that money is a grant and what part is a loan is still under discussion by the Treasury. The amount received was \$30,138. Cliff proposed returning any part deemed to be a loan, since we shouldn't critically need it, and keep the grant. That grant could offset pledge loss due to financial hardship. There was no objection to this proposal, and Patty thanked Cliff for facilitating this loan, especially since some churches have not even applied for it yet. As to the Vanguard account, the proceeds are rising. Before the \$65,000 buildings and grounds expenditures, the account was at \$345,000, which left a balance of \$280,000. Because of market loss, the account went down; but it is coming up and stands at \$265,000 now. Though cash balances will probably drop in the summer as they usually do, all in all, we are doing well.

### Seminarian's Remarks

Robin said a thank you to everyone and said she was blessed to be traveling with us in this special time on her journey toward the priesthood.

The next virtual Vestry meeting is June 22, 2020 at 7:30PM. Patty adjourned the meeting with a prayer at 9:05PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Alvarez