

## **Trinity Episcopal Church**

Vestry Minutes

March 15, 2021

Zoom Video Meeting

Members in attendance: Rev. Anne Weatherholt, Linda Guest, David Gum, Pat McMillan, Greg Janes, Phil Steptoe, Ann Hill, Colleen Tucker, Mary Ann Rogers, Marjorie Christie, Peggy Whetzel and Leslie Jones.  
Absent: Peter Brewster Guest: Cathy Ruley

Phil Steptoe, Senior Warden called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for being able to video conference.

Rev. Anne Weatherholt led the devotions.

- I. Rector's Report: Rev. Anne Weatherholt advised the Vestry that the Search Committee has completed the Parish Profile and OTM forms. Vestry discussions regarding content were answered. A motion from Linda Guest to accept the documents as presented for submission to the Bishop. Phil Steptoe seconded the motion. The motion to submit all search committee's documents to the Bishop passed unanimously by the Vestry. Rev. Anne advised the Vestry that the Episcopal News Service will place an ad for \$500.00 for two months advertising the Clergy position. A motion was placed by David Gum to spend up to \$500.00 on advertisement in the ENS for two months. Ann Hill seconded the motion; the motion was passed unanimously by the Vestry.
- II. Minutes: The Vestry meeting minutes for February 15th, 2021 were presented to the Vestry for approval, Marjorie Christie motioned to accept the minutes as amended and Leslie Jones seconded the motion subject to changes. The Vestry minutes were approved as amended by all members of the Vestry with the exception of Colleen Tucker voting nay.
- III. Treasurer's Report: Lisa Miller presented the financial reports for February 2021. Lisa Miller explained the finances for the month of February: Operating revenues were \$27,037.00 and expenses were \$34,366.00 with a deficit of (\$7,331.56). Questions were answered regarding the extremely high electric bill and water/sewer bill. Ann Hill advised to check with Scott Budka regarding pre-paid pledges and Fund Principles on the balance sheet. Ann Hill motioned to accept the financials for February 2021 subject to audit. Colleen Tucker seconded the motion. The financials were accepted unanimously by the Vestry.
- IV. Senior Warden's Report: Phil Steptoe stated that Trinity will not be holding services during the month of March. Berkeley County is still in the Red Zone. Phil is optimistic that Berkeley County will be in the yellow within the next few months and stay there for at least for two weeks. We can open with the specific guidelines presented to us by the Bishop last year. These guidelines are masks, social distance and 15 family units.
- V. Junior Warden's Report: Greg Janes notified the Vestry that the Chapel's stained-glass windows were removed and sealed. The windows are expected to be finished in approximately two months. The gutter repairs are on hold due to rescheduling. Future stained Glass window project will need to be a capital campaign and will need to be addressed in the future. Parking lot right-of-way issues are pending by the Trustees. They have an appointment with our Attorney that will be held next week. Trinity will be negotiating the maintenance and wear & tear for use passage of vehicles through the parking lot. Trinity will not be leasing or renting parking places to Sutton and Janelle, attorneys. The renovation of the lower level is progressing, Greg Janes requested a motion from the Vestry to allocate \$25,000.00 for the

floors, painting, and wall removal as the maximum expenditures for this project. Marjorie Christie advised of her concerns about safety of the people in the downtown area and she is worried about the long-term commitment from the daycare and pre-school. Greg Janes advised the Vestry that this project has been on the books for several years and we are just now getting to these renovations. He also advised that there should be no problem removing a wall and that the contractors stated it is not a load bearing wall. Trinity planned on these updates during previous Vestry meetings. The money is allocated and earmarked for the Sunday School Classroom's renovations by the Sarah Steptoe Memorial Fund. We are still in the exploration process of this project and will be forming a committee to make the long-term beautification decisions, timelines, and project plans. No final decisions have been made. Pat McMillan motioned to approve the allocated \$25,000.00 from the Steptoe Fund for the Sunday School Classroom renovations. Peggy Whetzel seconded the motion to allocate \$25,000.00 for this project. The motion was accepted by the Vestry unanimously.

- VI. New Business: Leslie Jones advised the Vestry that she has been in the office the last several weeks when the cleaning services have been in for the weekly cleaning. Leslie is concerned about the quality and quantity of services provided by this company. Leslie is willing to take back this responsibility that she had before the Covid outbreak. Leslie is willing to do this as an in-kind donation for the church. Lisa Miller advised that Steven (Norborne's Janitor) is cleaning all the common areas and all the bathrooms daily. Pat McMillan motioned to terminate the cleaning services effective March 31<sup>st</sup>. Mary Ann Rogers seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously accepted by the Vestry.
- VII. Stewardship and Evangelism Committee; Lisa Miller advised the Vestry that the pledges have remained the same for the last month.
- VIII. Closing: Rev. Anne Weatherholt ended the meeting with prayers. Phil Steptoe motioned to adjourn the Vestry meeting. This was seconded by Greg Janes. Rev. Anne thanked the Vestry's willingness to attend the meeting and for their commitment to Trinity, she gave her blessings to all.
- IX. The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:00 pm.
- X. Respectfully submitted by Lisa Sorrentino-Miller, March 16th, 2021