

Grace Episcopal Cathedral Minutes of the Vestry Meeting – May 18, 2021

Present: Rick Backlund, Suzanne DeWeese, Linda Ditch, Brenda Kebert, Cynthia Shepherd Langston, Ron Langston, Dean Torey Lightcap, Barbara Nuss, Lance Royer, Chris Shermoen, Susan Weber, Dennis Weikel

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

April Minutes: *A motion was made and seconded to accept the April 2021 vestry minutes as presented.* Motion unanimously carried.

Treasurer's report: For the month of April, operating income was \$70,171.42 and operating expense was \$66,307.37, resulting in a positive balance of \$3,867.05. Operating income for the year to date is \$310,501.35, and operating expense was \$249,940.66, resulting in a positive balance of \$60,560.69. Cash in the bank on April 30, 2021 was \$154,250.08.

Current status report:

- COVID restrictions on church activities are being carefully loosened. Following new recommendations from the bishop, Torey, Chris and Rick discussed what policies changes should be implemented. More information will be forthcoming. Concerns discussed include adjusting the mask policy, and children who are not eligible for vaccinations.
- There was discussion on adding the 8:30 service back to the Sunday schedule. An early outdoor summer service could also be an option. A suggestion was made to send the congregation a questionnaire regarding service times.

Reports from Vestry reps:

- Adult Education: Rick said that Adult Ed will take a break over the summer after the confirmation class is finished in mid-June. The committee will meet in late July to map out a plan for this fall.
- Chris said the vestry should have received an email from the diocese with a link to complete the online "Safeguard God's Children" training.
- Chris also reported on a proposal that has been resurrected to place a Blessing Box on the Cathedral grounds. The box would be sponsored and maintained by an outside sorority group with some members that have ties to the Cathedral. Chris and Torey will continue the discussion with the parties involved and bring it up for discussion at the June vestry meeting.
- Outreach: Dennis updated the vestry on the status of Operation Food Secure distributions at the Cathedral. The federal government will no longer fund this program. Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Kansas is going to fund a similar food distribution program through the summer. If anyone on the vestry is interested in volunteering with this program, please contact Jacquie Lightcap.
- Outreach would also like to have the "Dean's Discretionary Fund" listed as a budget line item. Lance said the budget would not be the place for that, but if it's a matter of accountability/transparency, a report on the fund can be made public. Lance and the dean will continue the discussion.
- Susan reported that the Pastoral Ministry would like to meet in June. The Hospitality Committee will be providing cookies for the Pentecost Picnic.

Dean's report:

- Dean Lightcap said he has signed the Facility Use Agreement with the Bishop Kemper School for Ministry. The contract is available for anyone who would like to review it.
- The Cathedral website redevelopment is underway and the Great spaces website is ready to go live.
- Confirmations/Receptions/Reaffirmations will be held on June 20.

- Thank you to all who participated in the dean's service of new ministry.
- The dean suggested the vestry consider making a gift to the Bethany Garden project as a sign of partnership and good will.

With no other business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned with a prayer. The next vestry meeting will be Tuesday, June 15, 2021, 5:30 p.m.

— Respectfully submitted by Connie Vosburgh, *Vestry Recorder*