

Minutes of the Regular Vestry Meeting
Tuesday January 28, 2020
Trinity Episcopal Church – Mobile, AL

The Regular Meeting of the Vestry was held at Trinity Episcopal Church on January 28, 2020. Voting Members present were Mary Stewart Stephens, Anna Lisa Tessier, Jameson White, Mike Cadden, Bob Howard, Daphne Marcum, Carolyn Watts-Smith, Allison Castle, Jill Creel, Chris Gill, Marie Lacy, and Kate Flukinger; also in attendance were the Rev. Bailey Norman, Deacon Terry Goff, and Susan Worley.

Fr. Bailey opened the meeting with prayer. Fr. Bailey moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting as submitted, motion was seconded by Bob Howard, and the Minutes of the Regular Meeting were approved by unanimous vote. Fr. Bailey moved to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting as submitted, motion was seconded by Bob Howard, and the Minutes of the Special Meeting were approved by unanimous vote.

Rector's Report: Fr. Bailey welcomed new vestry members and highlighted the importance of reviewing the parish by-laws during a time of transition.

- Reported that Kathie Wall has received a quote for a new plaque for the memory garden, which is just over \$4,000. The family of Dr. Ralph Powell as agreed to cover the cost.
- Project Invite, Welcome, Connect has recommended each parish have a hospitality area for newcomers. Fr. Bailey suggested that we use the ushers' pews for this purpose. A discussion ensued regarding the role of greeters and ushers, the information that would be available in the hospitality area, and the cost and work required to prepare the space. Concerns were raised regarding the need to improve access to the church for persons with disabilities before spending funds on the interior of the church. Further concerns were raised regarding the noise that such a space would bring into the sanctuary.
- Reported that there are a couple people interested in helping with EYC. There have been discussions about hiring a youth leader to ensure some permanence in the role. There is an individual who has expressed interest in this role, but no financial packages have been investigated for this purpose.

Deacon's Report: Terry Goff

- Project Homeless Connect will be held Friday January 31 at The Grounds. Help is needed to load the truck at 5pm on Wednesday, unloading the truck at the event space on Thursday, and to work the event on Friday. The Salvation Army's shower trailer will be there this year.
- Once Project Homeless Connect wraps up, work can begin on Sharing Faith Dinners, which will take place in June.

Finance Report:

- Proposed 2019 Budget was presented to members and discussed. Several members celebrated ending 2019 with a surplus, highlighted how we consistently receive close to 100% of our pledges, and brought the body's attention a slight increase in staff salaries to accommodate the departure of Fr. Bailey. The final HVAC payment was discussed. With no further questions or discussion, budget was adopted by unanimous vote.
- Bailey stressed the importance of reviewing budget priorities in advance of searching for new rector.
- Mary Stewart provided a stewardship update and reported 90 confirmed pledging units, totally \$305,228. There is the possibility of 6 more units that have not been confirmed.
- With regards to monthly financial report, members celebrated ending the year in the black.

Property Report: Mike Cadden

- Reported on his discussions with David Arnett (preceding Jr. Warden) regarding needs and priorities.
- Announced new committee to assist with property matters: Bill James, Jameson, Marie Lacy, Brian Wysong, Tom Langley, Roger Vance, Susan Worley.
- Discussed current strategy to fix potholes in west parking lot.
- Various options for a wheelchair ramp were discussed, including coding restrictions. Mike will attempt to locate previously drafted plans for ramp.

Christian Ed:

- Anne Gill's report on atrium and EYC was reviewed and discussed.
- Adult formation classes will continue, Fr. Bailey is looking for volunteers to continue his Inquirer's Class and Wednesday Bible study.

Bailey made closing remarks in light of his last Sunday before excusing himself and Susan for the vestry to meet in executive session.

Executive Session:

- Bob Howard provided a transition update. Reverend Johnny Cook will serve as Interim Rector and is available to begin February 16. Later in the meeting, a discussion ensued regarding the financial impact of the interim priest in light of approved budget.
- A supply priest is needed for 02/23 because of a previous commitment of Fr. Cook. Bob will reach out to Ben Rockwell.
- Bob reviewed the various search options and updated members of bishop's preference for a priest in charge. A discussion ensued. Later, Anne Gill was announced as chair of the search committee.
- Marie introduced the topic of a Mother's Day Out program as a priority going forward in an effort to build the parish.
- Bob reported that Terry will eventually be moved to another parish, but not in the immediate future.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. Our next meeting will be announced in February.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Flukinger, Clerk