

St. John's Episcopal Church Vestry 28 October 2020
via Zoom video-recording

Present: Pam Brittain, Ray Contreras, David Dennehy, Terry Farrelly, Diane Gustafson, Rev. Roger Haenke, Muriel Kulikowski, Jim McDevitt, Judy McKay, Lynn Young

Following opening prayer, Rev. Roger Haenke called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. Appreciation was given to Ray Contreras for his work on legal matters undertaken by the Vestry, to Christy Gollihur for the many prayer quilts she has made, and to Bishop Susan Brown Snook for the many blessings she has provided to St. John's.

David Dennehy moved, Lynn Young seconded approval of the Consent Agenda (minutes of the September Vestry meeting, the Priest's Monthly Operations report for September, and the Warden's Report for September). The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Terry Farrelly presented the Treasurer's report. Both revenues and expenses are 93% of the budgeted amount. Approximately \$4000 was received in memorial donations, and this will be put into a separate fund. Tree trimming costs made the expenses much higher than budgeted; \$10,000 had been budgeted, and the Men of St. John's covered the difference.

Bank of America has not yet informed St. John's as to what steps need to be taken to get PPP loan forgiveness.

St. John's has asked the auditor for an audit review for 2019.

David Dennehy moved, Jim McDevitt seconded approval of the Ad Hoc Committee's Financial Policies and Procedures, and the motion passed.

Old Business:

The City has not responded concerning the SE property Title Report. This issue has been going on since 2009.

The Fonti Property easement remains on Vestry agendas because this is an important matter. When information has been gathered, Vestry will need to prioritize several big-ticket items.

In August St. John's petitioned the Diocesan Standing Committee about changing the corporate name from "Vestrymen" to a more general term. No response has been received, and Rev. Roger Haenke will follow up on this. This matter will remain on the agenda until resolved.

In September St. John's petitioned the Diocesan Standing Committee to change our status from APP to full parish status. On October 20, 2020 this was granted. Rev. Roger Haenke has learned that first priority for Diocesan grants is given to mission parishes. Therefore, St. John's should begin to create a sizable property fund.

Three rooms in the ECS building adjacent to the Church Administration building had a rat infestation during the time Head Start operations have been suspended because of the pandemic. Corky's Pest Control did an assessment and found that the rodents were coming in through the roof. Most of the ECS supplies were destroyed. The rooms need to be evacuated, cleaned, and disinfected at a cost of \$2500. Rev. Roger Haenke, Senior Warden David Dennehy, and Treasurer Terry Farrelly recommended that St. John's pay for it, and Ray Contreras said that this is consistent with our duties as a landlord. The \$2500 can come from what remains of our Diocesan grant. ECS uses Lloyd's Pest Control for \$45/month, and this amount can cover the entire property. Pam Brittain moved, Lynn Young seconded to pay the \$45/month. The motion passed with one abstention.

Chula Vista Alarm is preparing a quote for the alarm system. St. John's has received a donation to pay for it. The Fire Marshal must do an inspection before St. John's can drop the current alarm company and choose Chula Vista Alarm.

Rev. Roger Haenke thanked Pam Brittain and Diane Gustafson for co-chairing the Stewardship campaign. After discussion the Vestry decided to extend the campaign two more weeks until the end of November, with the in-gathering of pledges on the second Sunday of Advent.

Rev. Roger Haenke and Rev. Cathey Dowdle plan a series of forums for Advent, all available on Zoom. The topics include being prepared (Advent = preparation), wills and advanced directives, planned giving, planning for a memorial service.

Rev. Roger Haenke has revised the action plan and received permission from the Bishop to move services into the church when the weather turns inclement. Once started, the inside services will continue rather than be moved back and forth. No date has been chosen for the first inside service. David Dennehy moved, Ray Contreras seconded having the inside of the church professionally cleaned prior to the first inside service, but this was tabled pending the receipt of three bids.

New Business:

Mark Higginbotham and Ed Wilson were alternates for the Diocesan Convention, and both have passed away. Rev. Roger Haenke will find another alternate.

Rev. Roger Haenke has nominated Mark Higginbotham to receive posthumously the Diocese's Servant Ministry Award.

The Common Life Share is the 10.5% of a parish's net disposable income that goes to the operations of the Diocese. St. John's share for 2021 is \$29,285. Diane

Gustafson moved, David Dennehy seconded approval of this sum, and the motion passed. *(Note: St. John's Common Life Share for 2020 was \$31,500, and the Vestry discussed increasing the amount for 2021. The form to be returned to the Diocese will contain this postscript: We will consider increasing this amount after pledging and development of our budget.)*

Financial Policies and Procedures require Vestry approval of the members of the Finance Committee. Jim McDevitt moved, David Dennehy seconded approval of the Finance Committee members: Terry Farrelly, Bob Dunn, Bill Cheney, Michael Morris, and Marcia Morris. The motion passed. Terry Farrelly's term as Treasurer is ending, but she will remain on the Finance Committee. Bill Cheney has agreed to be Treasurer; the new Vestry will approve this at their third meeting in 2021. Because of pandemic isolation, David Dennehy moved, Judy McKay seconded to waive the requirement that money counters be two parishioners (counting will be done by staff members Sally Elliott and Maria Love). The matter will be revisited at the February Vestry meeting. The motion passed with one abstention.

Donations made in memory of deceased parishioners and planned giving have been placed in Non-Operating Income. When the family or the deceased has restricted what the funds can be used for, St. John's will honor that. Unrestricted funds will be considered by the Vestry as needs arise.

South Bay Community Services has asked that grocery store gift cards be given in lieu of Thanksgiving food bags this year. Donations of cards or money to buy the cards will be collected.

Lynn Young moved, David Dennehy seconded to fill by appointment the remaining two years of Mark Higginbotham's term on the Vestry, and the motion passed. Current by-laws state that a Vestry member can run for another three-year term when their term ends but that following the second term must wait one year before running again. At this time Jim McDevitt, Judy McKay, and Lynn Young are eligible to run again.

Having been returned to full parish status, St. John's will have a Rector instead of a Priest-in-Charge. Rev. Roger Haenke submitted his resignation as Priest-in-Charge, as required, and the Vestry unanimously called him, with the same terms of employment, as Rector.

The next Vestry meeting will be Wednesday, November 18 *(note date change)* at 6 p.m. via Zoom. The Thanksgiving service will be available via Zoom on Wednesday, November 25 at 7 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Diane Gustafson, Clerk of Vestry

Note for future agenda: When a vote may be taken on an agenda item, background information will be sent in advance and VOTE will appear on the agenda. Also, the small groups and their role will be discussed in January

Thursday, October 29, 2020 12:18 p.m.

Roger Haenke (revroger@saint-johns.org) To: you + 8 more [Details](#)

Dear Vestry Members,

Thank you for calling me as your Rector.

I am humbled and honored to serve the parish of St. John's. My heart is overjoyed.

Last evening, I mentioned the need for an Alternate for Diocesan Convention.

This morning Alice Burnham has agreed to fill that vacancy.

We also discussed the desire to fill the vacancy on vestry.

David and I have talked with Tom Brzeczek who has volunteered and agreed to fill the vestry position vacated by Mark.

Therefore,

I move that Tom Brzeczek be accepted to fill the remainder of Mark's three year vestry position.

The motion has been seconded by Diane.

All in favor, please reply all - so that Diane has record of your vote.

Thank you to David for your your Spirit-guided conversation with Tom.

Peace

Roger

Rev. Roger Haenke

Rector

St. John's Episcopal Church

760 1st Ave

Chula Vista, CA 91910

619-422-4141

revroger@saint-johns.org

Pamela Brittain yes

Ray Conterras yes

David Dennehy yes

Diane Gustafson yes

Muriel Kulikowski yes

Jim McDevitt yes

Judy McKay yes

Lynn Young yes