

St. John's Episcopal Church Vestry 22 July 2020

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

The meeting was called to order at 6:09 p.m. following prayer led by Roger Haenke.

Diane Gustafson moved, David Dennehy seconded approval of the Consent Agenda (Vestry minutes for June and Priest's Operations report for June), and the motion passed.

Terry Farrelly presented the Treasurer's report (filed in the Vestry binder in the Church office). We are halfway through the year, and revenues are approximately \$5000 below budget. Pledges are down \$1000, plate is down \$2500, and donations are down \$1400. This is not bad considering that we are not meeting in person or fundraising. Also, our not meeting in person eliminates some expenses. The realtor commission that we have been paying for the past thirty months (to the agency that brokered the deal with Episcopal Community Services) is now paid in full, meaning \$2282 per month that we don't have to pay.

Regarding the financial audit, we are waiting for the Diocesan CPA to respond on our reports.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ray Contreras reported that he spoke with the Probate Examiner and has submitted a request that would clarify how the playground funds will be divided between two charities.

Mark Higginbotham continues to try to get an answer from the City of Chula Vista regarding the southeast corner property, specifically who is responsible for it. However, a title report, which Sally Elliott will be asked to find, had described the property as an easement and St. John's would have the burden of maintaining it.

Mark Higginbotham reported that the gutters, painting, and pressure washing have been completed. We have a bid from Woody's for window and door trim and will ask the Diocese if that work can be done and subtracted from our Diocesan grant.

Mark Higginbotham is working with Chula Vista Alarm, and we are waiting for the Fire Marshal to send an inspector to St. John's.

Bishop Susan Brown Snook cancelled all in-person worship for July. Roger Haenke will meet with her on July 23 and will ask about August. The Vestry will revisit this issue later.

The Diocese supports parishes to do a study on racism, such as Sacred Grounds or Growing Up White. After discussion, the consensus was for Roger Haenke to explore programs offered by other groups that interested parishioners could join. When in-person worship is again permitted, St. John's could perhaps offer a program led by one of our parishioners who had attended elsewhere.

NEW BUSINESS:

There is a significant amount of tree trimming and removal that needs to be done. Some of the trees could cause damage, and shrubbery is causing water to go into Maria Love's office. Nothing has been done in 5-6 years. Mark Higginbotham recommends that we accept an offer from Alex Morales Tree Service and Landscaping to do the work for \$13,500 (\$10,000 had been budgeted for tree trimming). Lynn Young moved, Muriel Kulikowski seconded approval to move forward with the work, and the motion passed. The Men of St. John's will provide the remaining \$3500 from their fundraising.

For information: Following a power outage in the Administration Office on the day of this Vestry meeting, the electrical outlets in Maria Love's office and the Library don't work. Mark Higginbotham scheduled an electrician to come out on July 23, and it is hoped to be a fairly easy fix.

The Diocesan Convention was scheduled to be held at St. Paul's in Yuma but now will be virtual with 30-40 attendees at each of 7-9 parishes. St. John's has been asked to be one of those parishes, and Roger Haenke agreed. It has not been decided whether food will be served.

Vestry members were asked to think about an appropriate memorial for Rev. Al Stott, who died recently.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Diane Gustafson, Clerk of Vestry