

Building Committee Minutes February 22, 2017

Attending: G. Boyd, M. Anspach,, F. Horne, D. Miller, M. Withington, F. Zarro. Architects: S. Brown, J. Waite. Absent: M. Claverie, M. Parobeck, Dean Vang.

The minutes of February 8 2017 were accepted for the record.

The Vestry Resolution of February 15 was distributed for everyone's information and file. The Resolution carried out the Building Committee's recommendation of February 8 that Bonacio Construction be engaged by the Parish as Construction Manager. A final agreement has been executed by Senior Warden Miller and Bonacio's Larry Novik, and meetings and conversations have ensued to schedule milestones leading to a groundbreaking in the spring of this year.

ACTIVITY REPORT: Boyd attended the February 23, 2017 meeting of the City Planning Board at which the Board approved an 18-month extension of the parish's site plan approval. The approval would have lapsed on March 9, but is now extended to September 9, 2018.

BACK TO THE MINUTES:

Boyd reported on receiving easement language from National Grid for the relocation of service near the church. A new transformer is to be installed near Brause's existing transformer, and an easement is required to connect the two across the property line at the southeast corner of Bethesda's lot. The easement has been reviewed by Architect Brown, the LA Associates site consultants, and now by Bonacio, and is in order.

Anspach, Brown and Boyd reported on the hearing loop installation in the church. The installers, MSP, encountered problems when drilling through the floor to allow the loop to cross the aisles according to MSP's drawing.

ACTIVITY REPORT: Boyd, Brown and Anspach met with MSP Feb. 23 and authorized a reconfiguring of the loop. The new plan will now include all pews except those to the east of the Gospel side aisle. In all other areas, the wiring could be run through the floor and into the undercroft to traverse the aisles. East of the Gospel aisle, there was impenetrable foundation or rock.

BACK TO THE MINUTES:

Boyd reported on tenancy prospects, including EOC/Head Start, Belmont Child Care Assoc., and Skidmore Restorative Justice Project/In Our Name Initiative. Frank Zarro said that Skidmore RJ/ION is prepared to sign a binding Letter of Intent to lease the fourth floor of the NPH. His announcement was greeted with expressions of appreciation and applause for bringing this to Bethesda, and for the mission that the project represents.

Jack Waite reported that the church building is now included as a contributing element in the Broadway Historic District on the official maps at the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. This designation will be a positive factor in qualifying for grant funding for restoration measures in the church.

Brown reported that she is in the process of preparing final drawings for Bonacio to use in estimating and bidding the NPH work. Choices will be made concerning the finishes, whether Bethesda or tenant fit-out, etc.

PRESERVATION FOUNDATION HOUSE TOUR MAY 13: Bethesda will be included on the May 13 Historic House Tour organized by the Saratoga Springs Preservation Foundation. Plans are afoot for creating an opportunity for hundreds of people to experience Bethesda fully. Mark Anspach suggested allowing visitors to ring the bells and try 'change ringing' from the numerical scripts. Farrell Goehring has and will develop a 45-minute organ recital, recorded and played on loop. The event promises to be an excellent opportunity to welcome people to Bethesda and inform them both of our historical significance and our near term future.

Next meetings: March 8, March 22, April 12, April 26