

Bethesda Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting

December 19, 2018, Skidmore College

Attendance: Dean Marshall J. Vang, Interim Rector
Darren Miller, Senior Warden
Kate Berheide, Junior Warden
John Van der Veer, Treasurer
Jamie Piraino, Assistant Treasurer
John Huppuch
Marcia MacDonald
Steven Rucker
Pam Houde
Sarah Manny
Field Horne
Ann Bullock, Clerk pro tem

Opening

The regular meeting of the Bethesda Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting was called to order at 7:03pm on December 19, 2018, in Room 208, Tisch Building, Skidmore College by Fr. Vang.

Devotions:

Jamie Piraino offered devotions.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of October 18, 2019, were unanimously approved as distributed.

Rector's Report:

Fr. Vang appointed Ann Bullock Clerk, pro tem, in the absence of Mayumi Kato, Clerk. Seminarian Landon Moore returns from UK December 20, 2018 and will preach December 30, 2018; will take ordination exams in January, 2019.

Presiding Bishop Curry has not issued a decision concerning Bishop Love's pronouncement concerning Resolution B012. A decision is expected following Epiphany.

Parish Leadership Council on January 26, 2019: Topic: "How to Deal with Conflict in Love"; Bishop Love will visit Bethesda Church on January 27, 2019. Vestry will meet with the Bishop following and host a luncheon. Vestry must determine location and payment for luncheon.

Church Triangle: Clergy of Bethesda. St. Peter's and Baptist Churches took part in Advent Lessons and Carols and look forward to further coordination.

Churchwarden's Report:

Senior Warden:

Motion to approve rector's expenses: D. Miller; J. Van der Veer; approved unanimously.

D. Miller reported that G. Boyd has met with a number of Saratoga Springs' agencies concerning housing of the needy and homeless re: their use of the New Parish House (NPH); Boyd met with Assemblyperson Carrie Woerner re: available funding for NPH; Miller and Boyd met with new Code Blue leadership re: their possible future involvement; Boyd met with Saratoga Hospital re: their potential use of NPH for discharged patients through Dept of Social Services.

Mercy House incorporation is being finalized. D. Miller reported that attorney J. Cox recommended no overlap in membership between the Vestry and the Board of Directors of Mercy House. D. Miller; J. Piraino; J Van der Veer and A. Bullock tendered their resignations from the Board of Mercy House.

Motion by D. Miller to appoint Mark Claverie; Mark Griffin; Mary Shartle; Doug Huston; Laura Bratigan; and Howard Nelson to the Board of Directors of Mercy House; seconded by S. Manny. Approved unanimously.

Mission update: Approximately \$300 in gift cards and toys collected and delivered to mission partners.

West Door project: waiting for estimate for work. Update on project to be presented to parish.

Christ the King donation: Bishop Love has requested donations from the diocese toward a necessary \$500k to support the diocesan center. Motion to give no donation made by D. Miller; seconded by M. MacDonald. Discussion of the request. Motion withdrawn. Motion to give \$200 toward this effort made by F. Horne; seconded by S. Rucker. Motion carried, with one objection.

D. Miller will offer update concerning parish projects on January 6, 2019; D. Miller will be away thereafter for ten weeks' training.

Junior Warden:

K. Berheide reported that interviews with potential clergy candidates will be scheduled for early January, based on availability.

Committee Reports:

Stewardship: S. Manny:

2019 Pledge envelopes available late December on account of late shipping; vendor offered a discount on printing. S. Manny to label the boxes.

F. Horne reported on his calls for pledges.

55 pledges received (total of \$152,000 pledged to date) generally representing increases. G. Boyd for NPH agrees to rolling over Capital Campaign contributions to pledges. Vestry is requested to update lists and phone parishioners after Christmas to encourage pledging.

Treasurer's Report: J. Vander Veer:

J. Van der Veer reported that P&P is ahead of 2017 and expenses are considerably less.

2019 draft budget presented, includes partial costs for rector; raises for staff. Discussion of current expenses and projected costs.

Expected 2018 income is about \$275k; pledged amount was just \$153k.

Pledges received for 2019 currently match 2018 pledge amount.

Discussion of pledge goal for 2019: determination that pledge goal of \$204,643 will be presented and total giving goal of \$269,643 included in 2019 budget to be approved at January 2019 Vestry meeting and presented to parish at annual meeting.

Christmas remembrances to be presented to staff; Vestry members contributed toward gifts. P. Houde will obtain gift cards.

Parish Life: P. Houde:

New shelving to be placed in tower steps. Changing table installed and grab bar to be installed (property management)

Continuing discussion of installation of handrail.

Christian Education: S Manny:
Going well

Communications: F. Horne:

Submissions for newsletter to Barbara in Field's absence. Newsletter will be mailed two weeks before Ash Wednesday (March 6, 2019)

Continuing Business:

Update budget

Call re pledge cards

Encourage attendance January 27, 2019 Bishop's visit

Parish Leadership conference

Blessing and Adjournment

Blessing by Fr. Vang

Meeting was adjourned by motion of D, Miller; second by MacDonald. Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ann Bullock

Clerk, Pro Tem