

## **Bethesda Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting**

**April 24, 2019 Skidmore College**

**Attendance:** Dean Marshall J. Vang, Interim Rector  
Kate Berheide, Junior Warden  
John Van der Veer, Treasurer  
John Huppuch and Boomer  
Marcia MacDonald  
Steven Rucker  
Pam Houde  
Field Horne  
Ann Bullock, Clerk

### **Opening**

The regular meeting of the Bethesda Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting was called to order at 7:03pm on April 24, 2019, in Room 208, Tisch Building, Skidmore College by Fr. Vang.

### **Devotions:**

Pam Houde offered devotions with grace and solemnity.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of March 20, 2019, were unanimously approved as corrected. (F. Horne, movant; M. MacDonald, second)

### **Rector's Report:**

Bishop Love: No determination from the Presiding Bishop's office re: Bp Love's appeal of his decision re: same-gender marriage; Bp Love has also been involved publicly with anti-abortion events which may not be helpful to his cause.

Landon Moore: Home for Easter. He has reported that he may have a job following graduation following further discernment, prayer and consideration.

Holy Week: Thanks to all for participation. Maintaining a Vigil on Thursday night is remarkable.

Diocesan Convention: June 8, 2019: Junior and Senior Wardens will go. Pam Houde will go. Motion to elect Wardens and P Houde delegates unanimously approved. (M. MacDonald; J. VanDerVeer, second) Alternates nominated : S. Rucker and J. VanDerVeer unanimously approved (F. Horne, J Huppuch second)

Vestry opening: Jaimie Piraino has resigned owing to family move. Scott Perrin willing to serve for a short time; Kathleen Anspach has expressed interest. Openings are by appointment since they are filling vacancies. C. Berheide to speak with Scott and Kathleen to determine their willingness to serve. P Houde suggested Barbara Tasso might serve.

**Churchwarden's Report:****Senior Warden: (absent):**

General comment that Mercy House has gotten a great deal of good press recently. Code Blue will not be coming to Mercy House; Dept of Social Services may use the fourth floor during the winter (where BEST will be housed during the track season): 501 (c)(3) approval anticipated in June

Motion to approve rector's expenses: F. Horne; P. Houde; approved unanimously.

**Junior Warden: C. Berheide**

Search Process: We must do reference checks and then do visits in May. There have been no new applicants. Some have shown interest in Mercy House—but no applicants

**Treasurer's Report: J. Vander Veer:**

J. VanderVeer sent report with M. Kato's graphics. P&P down (below budget) in March owing to weather- but expenses were also lower than budgeted. Year to date: \$5700 below budget in income; expenses were below budget by \$3400. March 2018 vs March 2019: P&P down, but expenses also down. YTD expenses have been \$8000+/- below budget. Easter looks to have been very good (\$8200+/-) and offerings are still arriving.

Bills are current; Diocesan assessment to be brought current.

Endowment Committee: Mark Claverie and Rick Wissler recommended to be placed on the committee; unanimously approved (J. VanderVeer; F. Horne) It was noted that there are no women on the Committee. There may be two openings on the committee coming up.

Stewardship: Pledges in amount of \$181,872 currently, with 67 active pledging units (both pledges and pledging units ahead of 2018.) Many identified non-pledges. Those who have not completed pledges for Capital Campaign should complete their pledges this year.

Rental increase: 43 Washington Street: Jeff Seagrave proposed a 20% increase in rent. Now raise is from \$300/month to \$315/month and twenty per cent of utilities. (F. Horne, movant; M. MacDonald, second) unanimously approved.

Additional income: Report that there are more weddings anticipated; also, SPAC is renting the church for two events in December.

Flowers this Easter: were less expensive, but there may have seemed to have been fewer flowers. (\$501.94 spent for palms, flowers, but not shut-in flowers; donations were reported over \$1000 for Easter flowers—figure to be confirmed) Shut-in flowers are budgeted as Outreach flowers (cost about \$100.) For future planning, Easter flowers are based on the previous year's flower donations.

Organ repair: expected to be \$400; part received April 23, 2019. Will be repaired by this Sunday. (Value of organ is \$1.5M; need designated endowment fund to repair/refurbish the organ.)

**Committee Reports:**

**Christian Education:** S Manny:

Sarah reported in absentia that there was a joint Easter egg event following our Easter Sunday mass.

**Parish Life:** P. Houde:

Railing at steps at requested by four families at Easter. Rector will take this up with the architect again. Still looking into the possibility of a temporary or removable railing through Building Committee and property management. Could consider offering Communion from multiple stations to avoid the steps.

**Property Management:** S Rucker:

Area of peeling paint in the back wall could be addressed by wallpaper. Moisture in the back wall at the chimney and areas where the roof is leaking prevents the paint from adhering. Gordon Boyd is re-writing grant applications for roof repair.

July 29, 2019: Building Fundraiser: purpose of this year's fund-raiser may have to be for the doors again as the estimated cost for this project is now approaching \$75,000. F. Horne hopes that this figure will come down with another contractor. Burke Funeral Home to contribute some of this.

**Stewardship:** see above:

**Continuing Business:** none

**New Business:** none

**Blessing and Adjournment**

Blessing by Fr. Vang

Meeting was adjourned by motion of M. MacDonald; seconded by F. Horne.

Passed unanimously at 8:15pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ann Bullock, Clerk