

**Bethesda Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting
March 17, 2021
Bethesda Church and Zoom, Saratoga Springs**

Attendance: Fr. Charles Wallace, Priest in Charge
Darren Miller, Senior Warden
Kate Berheide, Junior Warden via Zoom
Karen Finkbeiner, Treasurer
Pam Houde
Field Horne
Laura Kszan
Marcia MacDonald
Sara Manny
Steven Rucker via Zoom
John Van der Veer
David Wilder
Ann Bullock, Clerk

Absent: none

Opening

The regular meeting of the Bethesda Episcopal Church Vestry was called to order at 7: 03pm on March 17, 2021, at the Church, by Fr. Wallace

Devotions:

Fr. Wallace offered devotions.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of February 17, 2021, were unanimously approved. (D Wilder , movant; D Miller , second)

Priest-in-Charge Remarks: Fr Wallace

Busy season as we approach Easter and as people begin to be vaccinated. Preparations under way for baptisms and the church even held a funeral. Maundy Thursday service will not include washing of feet; liturgical rites of Holy Week will be held. Two services on Easter with seating reservations. Service orders are being proofread and will be printed next week to reduce stress for Holy Week.

Seminarian-led class on poetry of TS Eliot has been well attended. Sunday afternoon Music and Meditation series (with thanks to L Kszan and R Bullock) has been well-received. Attendees from outside the parish sent messages of appreciation, as have the musicians themselves. We are building good will with the musical community –as well as possible new parishioners.

Fr Wallace hopes to plan some time away to refresh and recharge after Easter. He is seeking clergy to cover services.

Treasurer's Financial Report: K Finkbeiner, Treasurer

K Finkbeiner sent report with summary showing that February 2021 expenses slightly exceeded income/revenue; however, expenses were well under budget and income exceeded budget projections. February monthly Deficit (of just over \$2000) was \$7300 under budgeted deficit.

Budget has changed by about \$15 based on changes in expenses. There will be a change in the employee costs for Mandy, cleaning.

PPP not yet shown as revenue: it will be included in revenue when fully forgiven.

Insurance and some fees (eg audit) will affect the deficit—not yet included in the figures as not yet accrued. We are on-budget based on the YTD income and expenses.

Churchwardens' Report:

Senior Warden: D. Miller

2020 draft audit sent earlier. D Miller asks that we present any further questions by March 19

Renovations:

Work on the exterior light fixture to start soon; the worker has had an accident, but is nevertheless looking for glass and will replace the fixture soon.

Roof to start in May

Railings under way.

M MacDonald asked how long the roof will take. D Miller to check on the expected time.

Paperwork to be completed to add additional signatories for check signing. A Bullock requested to sign Adirondack Trust document as Clerk.

Motion to add S Manny as check signatory (K Finkbeiner, moved; J Van Der Veer, second) unanimously approved.

D Wilder asked about the Building permit. D Miler reports that it is still in the works and still delayed by the City. F Horne has heard that there is a six- to eight- month delay in getting out permits, citywide. D Miller reported that there is discussion of the City granting two-year extensions across the board to all applicants given the delays for all projects.

Junior Warden: C. Berheide

Barbara's hours continue to be longer than anticipated. Fr Wallace and C Berheide are working on a schedule for Barbara so that she is properly paid.

Fr Wallace is planning for a vacation. Kate is seeking clergy to cover some services following Easter. This is an intense period ("like tax season") and some time to refresh is needed.

Kate is back in Saratoga Springs now and hopefully will be in attendance this weekend; certainly by Easter.

Commission Reports: none

Continuing Business:

P Houde and S Manny collecting funds for a gift for Barbara's husband as a thank you for the work he did in the move.

Fr Wallace reports that the new office space is a lovely space in which to work. D Wilder asks if there is conference space. There is space for wedding and baptismal preparation, but not enough space for Vestry meetings. The conference room is also the filing space.

Liturgical stole and some vestments are being replaced, as older and threadbare. We will have a complete set of vestments in each liturgical colour.

Paschal candle stick is being sought and a company downstate has antique brass candlesticks available. Range \$800 to \$1400 to purchase a new candlestick. Could have it by Easter if we select a candlestick soon.

Training session scheduled with a company that can service our bells. D Robinson and M Claverie, Fr Wallace to be taught to turn on the bells, change the time, etc.

New Business: none

Next meeting: April 21, 2021

Blessing and Adjournment

Blessing by Fr. Wallace at 7:34pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ann C. Bullock, Clerk