

**Bethesda Episcopal Church
Special Vestry Meeting
May 5, 2021
Saratoga Springs**

Attendance: Darren Miller, Senior Warden
Kate Berheide, Junior Warden
Karen Finkbeiner, Treasurer
Pam Houde
Field Horne
Laura Kszan
Marcia MacDonald
Steven Rucker
John Van der Veer
David Wilder
Ann Bullock, Clerk

Absent: Fr. Charles Wallace, Priest in Charge
Sara Manny

The special meeting of the Bethesda Episcopal Church Vestry was called to order at 7:10pm on May 5, 2021, at the Church, by Kate Berheide, Jr Warden.

Covenant with Fr. Wallace: renewal:

Kate Berheide reviewed the history of Fr. Wallace's arrival at Bethesda Episcopal Church. Fr. Wallace would like to renew his covenant as Priest in Charge. A question of parsonage needs to be addressed: Fr Wallace would like to live in town and, if he stays on, the Church will consider housing that suits him better. Length of next covenant was also discussed, in addition to a performance review. Vestry has agreed to continue his allotted time off to support his ministries. Consideration of other circumstances in the church that will make his continued ministry here more attractive. K Berheide will talk with Fr Wallace to discuss terms of agreement and housing. Overall, the Vestry expressed satisfaction with Fr Wallace and look forward to his continuing his ministry at Bethesda.

Church Office:

Discussion of option to move into larger space in the building in which the present office is located. The space is more expensive. Option will offer private spaces for both Fr Wallace and Barbara; may allow small conference room, with possibility of office hours. D Miller will approach the landlord to discuss possible terms.

Repair/replace church roof:

K Finkbeiner reported that there has been no answer from Sano-Rubin yet. G Boyd and J Waite, architect, are working to find cost savings from Sano-Rubin and the subcontractor. D Wilder asked about the contractor fee for Waite. The roof is being done as a subset of the parish house project at 10% or the cost of the project per the pre-existing contract for the parish house project. Endowment Committee is aware that we will need funds for this project and appears to have liquid funds for the down payment.

K Finkbeiner recommends that we not tell Sano-Rubin of any decision to allow for time to obtain better terms. D Miller reports that we are getting builder's insurance on the project through Rose and Kiernan.

D Wilder asked about the dust. Will need more cleaning, particularly before weddings. The organ will also need to be covered and there will be scaffolding.

Hope to start in June; fourteen weeks for project, obtaining the building permit, weather and our own event scheduling will affect this timeline.

Motion to approve the new roofing project as described as the base bid in the Word documents distributed to the Vestry on May 3, 2021, together with the membrane roof on the east side and removal of the north chimney for a cost not to exceed \$694,747 (movant, K Finkbeiner; D Miller, second) Approved unanimously.

Motion to approve a contract for builder's insurance thorough Rose and Kiernan for the roof project and the handrail contract for no more than \$5000 (D Miller, movant; J VanderVeer, second) Approved unanimously.

Next meeting: Regular Vestry Meeting

Meeting was adjourned by motion of K Finkbeiner ; M MacDonald, second. Passed unanimously at 9:38pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ann C. Bullock, Clerk