

Approved Vestry Council Minutes Via Zoom May 19th, 2020

Present:

Mike Cherwa (RC 23)
Jackie Lucas (RC 23)
Gail Orland (RC 20)
Bonnie Startt (E 20)
Dc. Gary Harmeyer
Julia Hatcher (Secretary)

Jane Tucker (E 20)
Andrea Whyte (E 23)
Kay Ashby (RC 21)
Fr. Mario Melendez
Mike Meehan (Finance)

Absent:

Bonnie Hamilton (E 21)
Carolyn Ferguson (E 21)

James Byrd (RC 20)

Call to Order:

Warden Jane Tucker called the meeting to order at 7.07pm with a prayer.

Time provided for Personal Reflection

Spiritual Formation: Fr Mario "Prayer of St Francis"

Approve Meeting Minutes from April 2020:

Minutes were approved without changes.

Finance Council Report: Treasurer - Mike Meehan

Financial Update: May 19, 2020

YTD Expenses:	\$ 85,354
YTD Income:	\$ 69,616
YTD Excess/(Deficit):	(\$ 15,738)
April Income	\$ 22,140
April Expenses	\$ 18,262
Excess	\$ 3878

** updated from the meeting

- Treasurer, Mike Meehan, reports online giving has increased but on the whole, we are not back to the amount that was being collected in the baskets.
- It was noted the Discretionary Fund contributions are sufficient, so a proposal was made and accepted to suspend the practice of any undesignated funds on the first Sunday of the month going to the Discretionary Fund and instead stay in the General Fund (where there's a deficit).
- There have been some unexpected expenses including an increase in the cost of insurance, but we the Executive Committee and Finance Committee are watching expenses very closely.

- Please note, Holy Apostles has several savings accounts, but only two checking accounts. One checking account is for the Discretionary Fund the other is the main Operating Account. There is restricted money in the Operating Account (i.e. Capital Improvement and Pauline's Purse), so not all money in the Operating Account is accessible for paying ongoing bills.

CLERGY REPORT:

Fr Mario and Dc Gary:

- The live stream has had issues but thus far we have only live streamed two services and we learn more with each live stream event. A new condenser microphone has been purchased, and a second is ordered, in the hope sound quality improves.
- The podcasts of Sunday Morning Prayer have become more of a traditional morning prayer format now that we are live streaming a liturgy. The Sunday Morning Prayer will continue in conjunction with the liturgy live streaming.
- Reopening for in-person services will not happen quickly as there needs to be a lot of planning. Both traditions have issued proposed guidelines however Bishop Haynes does not want to consider in-person services until there has been 14 consecutive days with a reduction in Covid-19 numbers. Her first consideration is safety and Holy Apostles will follow the most restrictive rules to comply with all requirements of both dioceses as many in our congregation are at risk and elderly. Everyone will have to answer a set of three questions before entry, all attendees will be required to wear a mask throughout the service, there will be no holding hands (outside the family unit), no singing (because it has been found to increase the spread of Covid-19) and there will be a sign up list for people who are attending. We are only in phase 1 there are 2 other phases to go before we can resume a sense of our previous normalcy.
- It was noted in the *Catholic Virginian* that virtual services do not meet the Sunday obligation to attend Mass, however the bishop has given a dispensation for attending Mass during the pandemic.

NEW ITEMS:

- **Proposal to Reduce Members of Vestry Council by 2 – Jane**
Proposal to Reduce Members of Vestry Council by 2 will need more research but we are hoping it will be a temporary reduction as Vestry council was based on 12 Apostles, 2 clergy, 5 Catholic members and 5 Episcopalian members
- **Certification of Lay Delegate and Alternate to Episcopal Diocesan Council – Jane**
Jane will check with Whitney McDaniel and Charlie Mills to see if they are willing to stay on as delegate and alternate (respectively) for another year.
- **Safe Church Annual Audit – Due to Episcopal Diocese of Southern Virginia by June 30, 2020 – Fr. Mario**

Bonnie Startt will arrange a meeting this week to meet this requirement but it was noted this is currently a low priority for the diocese.

- **Constant Contact Website – Fr. Mario**

Tabled until June meeting

- **Next Vestry Council Meeting – Tuesday June 23 at 5.30pm via zoom**

Please note the time change and still on zoom an invite will be sent nearer the meeting date.

PENDING ITEMS:

- **Update on salary modifications – Dc. Gary**
- **Bonnie Hamilton replacement – Dc. Gary**

INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS:

- **VC Goals for 2020 - Need committees to include in monthly reports how goals are being achieved.**

ANNUAL RETREAT GOALS FOR 2019/20

- **Goal 1:** Expand the ecumenical mission of Holy Apostles by building relationships with the Bishops of the Diocese of Richmond and the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Virginia, and by continuing to support the 2019 LARCUM, the 2020 43rd Anniversary and our desire for a single service.
 - **Responsible parties** – Liturgy, Christian Unity, Clergy and Vestry Council
- **Goal 2:** Continue to reach out to people and their families within the community by:
 1. Fellowship committee events
 2. Greeters
 3. Follow-up with personal connections
 4. Welcoming and registering newcomers
 5. Dinners
 - **Responsible parties** – Newcomers, Social Ministry, Fellowship and Administration Committees
- **Goal 3:** Explore an ecumenical plan to call and retain a minister to work with youth and young adults at Holy Apostles. (ODU: Newman Center and Canterbury House)
 - **Responsible parties** – Clergy and Vestry Council
- **Goal 4:** Reach out to people and their families by establishing Holy Apostles as a location and resource for ecumenical teams.
 - **Responsible parties** – Clergy and Vestry Council.

Committee Liaison Reports:

Fellowship – April

ACF - April

COMPLETED ITEMS:

- **Proposal for Manna Pantry food distribution; Criteria: 1. Our Church community members first if they would come forward and voice their needs. 2. Through Social Services if we can get them to send us people. 3. Our**

neighborhood if we can somehow contact say Twin Canal Apartments to see if they have people in need. 4. Providing to Ascension for their Food Pantry which is still open.

- Music License has been updated to include streaming and podcast.
- Proposals for handicapped front doors, replacement of door keys with a key fob system, repair of stucco surface on outside of building, ACF list of improvements to Church facilities to create more inclusive community have all been placed on hold. Nothing requiring an expense is being considered at this time. Suggestions for cost cutting measures should be forwarded to the clergy.

Final Prayer and Adjournment at 9.00pm

**Next scheduled meeting will be Tuesday June 23 at 5.30pm.
Zoom invite will be sent before that time**

Julia Hatcher
Secretary
June 23, 2020