

Approved Vestry Council Minutes

Via Zoom

March 16th, 2021

Present:

Mike Cherwa (RC 22)
Joann Mancuso (RC 23)
Matthew Wood (RC 23)
Charlie Mills (E 23)
Julia Hatcher (Secretary)

Whitney McDaniel (E 23)
Kim Nichter (E 21)
Andrea Whyte (E 22)
Dc. Gary Harmeyer

Absent:

Kay Ashby (RC 21)
Carolyn Ferguson (E 21)
Mike Meehan (Finance)

Jackie Lucas (RC 22)
Fr. Mario Melendez

Call to Order:

Whitney McDaniel called the meeting to order at 6:34pm with a prayer.

Time provided for Personal Reflection:

Spiritual Formation: Dc. Gary reflected on “Why must I carry a cross?” from the Little Black Book

Approve Meeting Minutes from February 16th and March 2nd Combined.

Approved with a few grammatical corrections.

Finance Council Report: Treasurer - Mike Meehan

Financial Update: 16 February 2021

YTD Income:	\$ 29,121.62
YTD Expense:	\$ 35,173.43
YTD Excess:	(\$6,051.81)

February Income:	\$ 14,860.12
February Expenses:	\$19,700.65
Net Income:	(\$4,840.53)

- February had higher than normal expenses.
 - Our electrical bill was higher because a heat pump for the office area was often running on auxiliary heat. The situation has been rectified, but the heat pump (installed in 1997) will need to be replaced before the summer.
 - Costs for suspending the camera for livestreaming services was paid during the month.
 - Funds, earmarked for Latino Relief, were paid out in February.

CLERGY REPORT

- Vestry Council approved the regathering for in-person liturgies on Sunday, March 21st (Episcopal Diocese approved churches to regather when ready after March 13th).
- Seating capacity in the sanctuary has been increased to 58 as a result of adding another row of chairs and the relocation of the audio-visual table.
 - The Fellowship Hall will serve as an overflow space with a capacity of 19.
 - No reservations are required.
- Fr. Alan Mead will serve as our Interim Episcopal priest during Fr. Mario's absence.
- Fellowship inside the building is still prohibited, but once outside socializing with others, while maintaining social distancing and mask wearing, is acceptable.
- Palms will be given out on Palm Sunday March 28th, in the parking lot for those not attending the Palm Sunday service in-person.
- Fr. Thomas Hayes has been appointed the Episcopal Ecumenical Officer and has been in touch with Monsignor Joe Lehman. After Easter we will invite both to a Vestry Council meeting (perhaps via Zoom) to introduce ourselves.
 - It was proposed that we invite both Monsignor Joe Lehman and Fr. Thomas Hayes to our anniversary celebration in November.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **Publish goals, objectives, actions in the monthly ARChive and weekly emails – Julia**
It was agreed Julia will publish both goals (without the actions) in the April's edition of the ARChive.
In May she will publish the Ecumenical Goal and actions.
In June the Membership and Outreach Goal and actions will be published.
- **Action Item Chart**
Matt produced a chart to track progress on fulfilling Actions on the Goals. The Chairperson of each subcommittee will submit the updated chart with the Committee reports so we can track and have a tally for the year.

NEW ITEMS:

- **Playground proposal - Whitney**
There was consensus to keep the fence around the playground area, mulch the ground and add a picnic table. Brent has been offered free mulch. The drainage problem was discussed and consensus was for the area to be graded slightly away from the building to the fence line before laying down mulch so the rain water doesn't pool in the space.
- **Community Building Worship for Parish Leaders opportunity – Gary**
 - Members of the Vestry Council committed to watching a "Ted Talk" video on YouTube, by Simon Sinek, entitled "The Golden Circle".
 - It's a leadership video addressing the importance of identifying why an organization exists and why others would want to join it.
 - Other members of the Holy Apostles community are encouraged to view it too.
Other viewing recommendations are:
[Community Building: COVID and Beyond](#) (1h 17min) Vimeo
- **Mailing Flyers – Membership Objective - 3 action Items - Matt**
Matt researched the cost of mass mailout to the Military Housing Midway Manor. The cost is an average of \$200 and a flyer would be delivered to 1027 houses in that area. The mail carrier would deliver to every house on that route. Expanding the area is

possible if this approach is determined to be successful. A flyer would need to be designed and an August mailing date was proposed.

- **129th Annual Council Diocese Southern Virginia brief - Whitney**
Very enjoyable and useful Conference and a few links have been provided. Julia will post the Five Initiatives in April ARChive.
[Bishop Haynes' Five Initiatives](#)
[Rooted in Love: Where Good News, Spiritual Practices and our Baptismal promises meet](#) Council Keynote (1h 40min) YouTube
- **Formation opportunities from Annual Council - Kim**
Presenters spoke about “Sacred Ground”, “Bible Project” and “Embracing Evangelism”
Kim presented a synopsis on all three and they will be included in the ARChive.

INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS:

- **Lawn mower purchased following Vestry Council’s March 2 approval**
- **Permanent COVID-19 safety rules for employers**
The Dioceses have decided to keep the Safe Worship Protocols even after the pandemic has ended. [Safe Worship Protocols](#)

ANNUAL RETREAT GOALS FOR 2020/21

Ecumenism Goal:

To educate current and future members of the Church of the Holy Apostles community about ecumenism, to increase understanding of why ecumenism holds special significance for our community; and to become a more visible ecumenical partner in the community.

Objective 1: Ensure that each member of the community is provided access to ready, updated resources, when needed and as available, to increase their knowledge and understanding of ecumenism.

Responsible Party: Ecumenical small committee and other community members, Christian Formation, Fellowship, Liturgy, and clergy

Objective 2: Increase visibility of Church of the Holy Apostles as an ecumenical/interfaith community through active representation and participation at ecumenical activities as sponsors/co-sponsors/active participants.

Responsible Party: Ecumenical small committee and other community members, Christian Formation, Fellowship, Liturgy, Social Ministry and clergy

Membership and Outreach Goal:

Continue to communicate Holy Apostles’ mission, support our church members, and reach out to military and various groups to expand our Holy Apostles’ community.

Objective 1: Ensure external communication outlets such as the website, Facebook, and YouTube receive content updates on a regular basis.

Responsible parties: Administration - Communications; Christian Unity

Objective 2: Reach out to HA members during the pandemic by calling, emailing, and/or sending cards and letters on a regular basis.

Responsible parties: Fellowship; Social Ministry; Vestry Council; Clergy

Objective 3: Reach out to local military and other local communities through focused advertising and by increasing participation in community events.

Responsible parties: Vestry Council, Administration – Communications; Social Ministry

Committee Liaison Reports:

Social Ministry
Fellowship

**March Vestry Council meeting will be April 20th.
Adjournment was at 8.30pm**

Julia Hatcher
Secretary
April 20th , 2021