

ST. THOMAS VESTRY MEETING

July 19, 2021

Present: The Rev Canon Lisa Fry, Rector; Elizabeth Moran, Senior Warden; Troy Bickham, Brother Donovan Bowley, Bill Freeman, Roy Gilley, Jan Lyle, Dean Jackson, Kendra Watkins, Jen Johanson, Eileen Morelli; Terry Mello, Treasurer; Shirley Fierro, Clerk. Excused: Edmund Hartt, Junior Warden

Meeting opened at 5:37 p.m. with Collect 13, led by the Rector. A motion was made by Elizabeth and seconded by Brother Donovan to accept the minutes of the Vestry meeting of June 21, 2021. A vote was taken, and the minutes were accepted unanimously.

Reports:

Rector: Will report in “new business.”

Sr. Warden:

Thank you to Bill for working on every member survey. Thank you also to Terry for assistance with the online version. Thirty-one surveys have been received completed online. Labor Day is the deadline for receipt of both online and paper copies. Once the data has been compiled it will be discussed at Vestry.

Diane Kirkman, a member of the volunteer office staff, will input all paper surveys.

Jr. Warden:

As Edmond is out this evening the Rector reported the Finance people are collaborating with the Architect to determine the facts needed regarding the proposals for the Tower project to make an educated decision. The timeline will be available once all options are deliberated. Edmund and Carlos will choose one or two additional vestry members to assist them in this endeavor. The question was asked: will someone from the Diocese assist with the capital campaign?

Treasurers Report:

Eight new people are givers of record. We are down to about three people who have pledged previously but have not this year.

Phil Groman has agreed to be a part of the audit of records.

Finance Liaison: (Bill Freeman)

It was reported some funds remain in CD's and some funds are still with Camden National Bank. Some accounts are being consolidated to bring us a better return on capital.

New Business:

Lebanon to Lincoln Diocesan project: Lebanon to Lincoln Academy is a project to help fund schooling for two young men to attend high school in Newcastle, Maine. Their father is an Episcopal Priest in Lebanon with a parish and ministry to assist others. Each parish in the diocese is being asked to raise a total of \$3,000.00. Our thought is to try and raise \$1500.00 from parishioners, possible have the young men come to speak, and the balance will be “matched” from either available Outreach funds or the Richard I Thomas, or Sara Davenport funds, TBD. Troy was able to give the Vestry insight into the issues in Lebanon since the explosion that destroyed most of the city: including water shortages and electricity available for only a few hours a day.

The following students have also been awarded scholarships from St. Thomas: Lola Black, - Watershed School, Camden, ME; Kristian Kibler – Maritime Academy, Castine, ME; Freya Johanson – St. Lawrence University, Canton, NY.

Public Health Nurses have approached the church to allow vaccinations to take place in the parish hall. The Nurses will fully reclean the premises once the procedure is completed. No decision reached until the Rector contacts the PHN's for additional information.

The Rector is reorganizing her priorities to spend significantly more time being a Pastor to the people of St. Thomas.' She is stepping back to allow more Lay participation of administrative work including Capital

Campaign and Stewardship – not traditionally the Rector’s purview. She has requested the Vestry step in and take a more active role in the fiscal duties and facilities upkeep. Going forward others will help facilitate the Vestry meetings allowing the Rector to actively listen more during the meetings. The Vestry requested a more detailed plan of responsibilities going forward, and the Rector will have that done by the next meeting.

A Pie Chart or RACI was mentioned, and the ramifications discussed – in terms of who is responsible for each task:

R – responsibility
A – accountability
C – consulted
I – informed

The Meeting closed in prayer at 6:40 pm.

Upcoming Activities for the Congregation:

- Online services of Noonday Prayer continue.
- Wednesday-Eucharist with Healing - 9:30 am.
- AA Meetings daily, upstairs for large groups on Monday and Friday
- Next online Sunday Service video: July 25th
- Next Diocesan video service: September 12th
- Wednesday and Saturday - Compline at 8 pm.
- Bible Study: Wednesdays at 10:30 am (with Brother Donovan).
- Rector’s Class Sundays on Zoom at 4:00 pm (Rector).
- Food pantry remains open.
- Loaves and Fishes continuing - take out.
- Pastoral visits with Rector continuing.
- Tidings weekly
- Website – links to all online offerings.
- Vestry Meeting, Monday, August 16th at 5:30 pm.