

St Thomas Episcopal Church Vestry (Hybrid) Meeting
Monday, January 18, 2022
5:33 pm

Present: The Reverend Canon Lisa Fry, Rector; Elizabeth Moran, Senior Warden; Edmund Hartt, Junior Warden; Troy Bickham, Brother Donovan Bowley, William Freeman, Dean Jackson, Eileen Morelli, Kendra Watkins, Jim Everett, Treasurer; Terry Mello, Former Treasurer; Shirley Fierro, Clerk. Excused: Jan Lyle.

The meeting opened with a prayer led by the Rector at 5:33 p.m.

A motion was made by Bill and seconded by Brother Donovan to accept December 13, 2021, minutes as written. All were in favor. None were opposed and no abstentions. The minutes were accepted.

Reports:

Rector: Received prior to the meeting and there were no questions.

Senior Warden: An inventory of the “parish treasures” used by the Altar Guild in the weekly and semi-weekly services, is in process of being compiled. The insurance information is in the files in the office and should include Bruce Buxton’s appraisal.

Junior Warden: No new items to report.

Outgoing Treasurer, Terry Mello: End of year shows a surplus of \$12,685 for 2021. The PPE loan was forgiven as per the diocese.

The parish received a \$50,000 gift for the tower fund. A motion was made by Edmund to accept this donation to the tower fund and was seconded by Donovan. All were in favor.

Brought up the annual designation of the Rector’s housing allowance from her salary. This year it will be 27,000. A motion was made by Edmund and seconded by Bill to accept this motion as stated. All were in favor.

Treasurer, Jim Ebbert: The proposed 2022 budget was presented. The budget reflects a realistic deficit but it is felt that by the end of the year due to various factors, this could be balanced. If not balanced it could be covered by the endowment. Five Percent of the endowment equals \$46,000. A motion was made by Bill to accept the budget for 2022 as written and seconded by Troy. All were in favor of this budget.

New Business:

- The Rector proposed that the Parish Meeting on January 30, 2022, take place at 9:00 am and be both a streamed and in person meeting. No food or drink will be available as this meeting will take place in the church.
- Nominations are slowly coming in for proposed Vestry Members. There are three positions available for a three-year term each. We have someone standing for the 1 year, and the 2 year terms.
- A suggestion was made that the Vestry move the monthly scheduled vestry meeting time to 6:00 pm to accommodate parents with children who have after school activities. This will be taken under consideration.
- A Vestry Retreat this year is proposed from 9 am – 3pm on a Saturday in February or March. Let Lisa know of your preference of the date.

The rector wondered if the current number of Vestry members is too many for the size parish. Lisa will approach the Bishop about what the canons state in regard to this.

There was a discussion about contractors and the Tower project. No decision was reached and the questions was sent back to the B & G Committee.

An overview of the tower renovation/replacement information the Vestry has looked at will be presented to the Parish at the Annual Meeting and a consensus will hopefully be reached at a February Parish Meeting. If no consensus is reached at the February parish meeting the recommendation of the Vestry will stand.

Lisa thanked all those concluding their time on the Vestry for their service especially as these past two years have been challenging due to Covid.

A motion was made by Donovan and seconded by Bill to conclude the meeting. All present were in favor.

The Vestry meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer led by the Rector at 6:29 pm.

Upcoming Activities for the Congregation:

- Online services of Noonday Prayer and Compline
- Wednesday, Eucharist with Healing
- Bible Study Wednesdays at 11:00 am via Zoom
- AA meetings daily (Parish Hall on Monday and Friday)
- Centering Prayer in the Lady Chapel on Sunday evenings at 5:00 pm
- Annual Parish Meeting, January 30, 2022, following a special 9:00 am Eucharist

The next Vestry Meeting is scheduled for February 22, 2022, venue to be decided.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shirley F. Fierro, Clerk