

**St. Thomas' Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting**  
**Monday, August 15, 2022**

**Present:** The Reverend Canon Lisa Fry, Rector; Elizabeth Moran, Sr. Warden; Edmund Hartt, Jr. Warden;  
Vestry Members: Benjy Lowry, Sarah Groman, Jan Lyle, , Eileen Morelli; and Terry Mello, Interim Treasurer

**Excused:** Vestry Members: Kendra Watkins, Dean Jackson; and Shirley Fierro, Clerk of the Vestry

The meeting opened in prayer led by the Rector.

A motion was made by Edmund and seconded by Sarah to accept the minutes from the June 29<sup>th</sup> meeting as written. Five Vestry members were in favor; Benjy abstained as this is his first meeting.

**Interim Treasurer – Terry Mello**

- Discussed financials to date.
- Discussed the importance of the Vestry being kept informed of St. Thomas' finances by the Treasurer on a monthly basis. Further discussion followed.
- Terry discussed the 2021 surplus of \$12,565.17 – the use of this surplus has not been designated. She explained that since the Vestry passed a deficit budget for 2022, they should be given the opportunity to offset the 2022 deficit with last year's surplus (or decide where the funds should be designated). Further discussion followed.

Edmund made a motion to designate the \$12,565.17 of 2021 Operating Surplus to help with the 2022 Operating Budget. Elizabeth seconded. Unanimous approval of the motion.

- Currently the Diocese is offering grants up to \$4,000 for technology equipment. In 2021, St. Thomas' received \$2,000 and we are eligible to receive an additional \$2,000. Deadline is December 31, 2022.

Eileen made a motion to spend up to \$2,000 for technology equipment including an Owl camera, Television/Large Monitor and miscellaneous peripherals. Edmund seconded. Discussion followed. Unanimous approval of the motion.

**Junior Warden – Edmund Hartt**

Will hold off discussion until later in the meeting.

**Senior Warden – Elizabeth Moran**

She is working on Altar Guild and concerned about the state of the gardens.

**Rector – Rev. Canon Lisa Fry**

Rector Report taken as read.

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**New Business**

- Introduction and welcome of new Vestry member, Benjy Lowry.
  
- **Diocesan Convention** – we need 2 more delegates to represent St. Thomas'. Convention will be on ZOOM again this year. Jan Lyle agreed to be a delegate and will be joining Donovan. St. Thomas' is allowed 3 votes at the convention and Lisa+ would like to get all three votes. It was suggested that Gwen Prosser be asked. Edmund made motion to accept Donovan, Jan and a third member as Convention Delegates; Eileen seconded; unanimous approval.
  
- **Vestry Retreat and Change of Vestry Meeting** – The Vestry Retreat is September 10<sup>th</sup> at Camp Bishopswood. Family members are invited to enjoy Camp Bishopswood. The retreat is from 9 a.m. to noon. There will be no September Vestry meeting. Terry was asked to have the financial report available before September 10<sup>th</sup>.
  
- **Building & Grounds** – Edmund reported that the Buildings and Grounds committee met two weeks ago.
  - Edmund shared an update on Bell Tower progress – Chuck is continuing to work on the drawings, etc.
  - Stained Glass discussion. Elizabeth made a motion to accept contracting with Stained Glass Resources, Inc, located in Massachusetts, to repair ventilator windows at a cost of \$32,000. Edmund seconded the motion. Unanimous acceptance of the motion.

**Old Business**

- Lisa table “Mediated conversation with community” as all Vestry members were not present.

The book *Dignity: Its Essential Role in Resolving Conflict*, written by Donna Hicks, Ph.D., is being read by the Vestry. A lively discussion of the Introduction took place. Chapter 1 will be discussed at the Vestry Retreat.

Edmund made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Benjy seconded; all approved.

Lisa+ ended the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

Faithfully,

Terry Mello  
Interim Treasurer