

April Vestry Minutes via Zoom

April 6, 2020

7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order with prayer by Father Rob at 7:05 p.m.

All members were present. Two arrived late.

It was moved and seconded to accept the consent agenda. Minutes corrections to the March Vestry and Emergency meetings will be made. Betsi asked about the Scott Temperature questions raised in meeting minutes. These questions will be discussed under new business. The vote was unanimous to accept the consent agenda.

Discussion began about church finances in view of the Corona Virus pandemic. The Finance Committee has not met since the March meeting Elizabeth Miller stated. There was brief discussion about the reserve and further discussion tabled. Discussion began about the Small Business Administration's Payroll Protection Program. It was noted that churches are included. A motion was made to discuss and this was seconded. An SBA loan would be contingent on bishop approval. It was noted that the money could be used 75% for payroll and 25% for utilities or other necessities. The loan would be forgiven. Father Rob stated his opposition to applying for this loan. He stated that diocesan approval is needed and need must be indicated. He further stated that \$16,000.00 in pledges had come in late last week and that the church has reserves that can be used. He feels the loans are for those small businesses that have no other recourse. It was noted that constitutionality of the loans is being challenged in court. Father Rob said his feeling is that Trinity is not in a position to need the money. Betsi agreed with Father Rob. There are issues in the budget that need to be resolved such as utilities, music staff, etc. Bill said that while the church budget is OK now, but recollected that 2 years ago it was not. He wondered where we will be in 6 months as pledge units have been lost. Donna added that this is an opportunity to learn, grow and build new memberships in the church. Linda said her feeling is that the economy will continue to worsen and need may become dire. If we wait too long to apply, the

money may be gone. Betsi added that the loan only covers 2 and half months. There were questions about the application that the Senior Warden answered. He feels that the loan can be kept as an option should it be needed. The Junior Warden stated he feels the money will be available for some time and we should wait to see what our financial position is later on. David agreed noting that utilities are down due to the church being closed. Further discussion continued. Bill noted that the Food Pantry, LINK and Back Snack groups will be needing extra money. The loan money could be used for salaries and pledge money used prop up these programs in this time of extra need. Bill Perkins made a motion, David Severance seconded and vote was taken: there was 1 abstention, 2 for waiting and 7 for continued discussion at a future date to consider application for the loan.

John discussed the Zoom subscription and its funding. It is \$17.00 a month. If other platforms are going to be used for worship etc., there may be more subscriptions. It was stated that the Zoom subscription is probably covered by the savings netted in not using paper for worship services. Father Rob was reimbursed for signing up for the subscription but this will be switched to the church.

The subject of relief clergy funding during Father Rob's sabbatical was brought up. Father Rob stated that he would prefer to postpone his sabbatical because a transition of leadership during this crisis would be difficult. He further stated that he would not be able to accomplish what he wanted due to travel restrictions, etc. The Senior Warden and the Vestry agreed. Father Rob said the subject can be revisited at the end of May. Betsi added we may know more in another month or so. Father Rob then asked for information in contacting the family of Karen Lind. A phone number he had been given was incorrect. Steve indicated he will email Father Rob the information he has. It was noted that a parishioner who had suffered from COVID 19 was recovering and out of isolation.

Betsi then brought up the issue of Scott Temperature and a schedule of maintenance for the heating and cooling units of the church. It includes quarterly filter changes and spring and fall maintenance. This would help lengthen the life of all units. Should a schedule be made to begin to replace these units? If so, these replacements should be made without borrowing money to do so. The Junior Warden stated a maintenance contract could be tabled at this time because the building is being used so little. Discussion

about filter replacement took place and Betsi said having a plan would be proactive. Linda noted the condenser by the kitchen door was in need of cleaning and that it collected a lot of dirt due to its placement. Richard said he would check it out. A motion was made and seconded to postpone discussion until the first of May. Further discussion continued and questions were answered. The vote was unanimous to postpone the scheduling.

Discussion of Facebook worship took place. Should an alternative platform be considered since some are not able to access the Trinity Facebook page? Betsi further stated how much she appreciates Father Rob's robo calls and made the suggestion that he begin doing more of them, including perhaps a Scripture reading. Father Rob acknowledged the problem with Facebook and noted that he is currently looking into podcasting. U-Tube was discussed as an alternative to Facebook. Camille stated the Communication Committee met today. The suggestion was made that live streaming start 15 minutes earlier with a virtual greeter. A chat column would allow people to interact. Father Rob announced that services would be streamed from the church with music included. Bill added that permission on Facebook should be checked. This could be part of the reason people can't get into the service. Betsi said step by step directions are helpful. U Tube requires a channel to be set up, would Facebook or Zoom be better? Jennifer stated that setting up a channel is not difficult. It was noted that the services set up for Thursday, Friday, Saturday Vigil and Sunday due not conflict with those of the Cathedral. The issue of those without email was discussed. Father Rob noted that they do have the robo calls. Bill suggested that a letter be sent to those without email to keep them connected. Father Rob said he would write a letter.

Richard brought up the subject of section leaders and music salaries. Father Rob said section leaders are no longer being paid. Dina and Doug's salaries were changed per the 2020 budget. It is a joint salary per service. It was noted that Doug's cancer may cause him to lose a kidney. Tory is being tested for COVID 19.

David asked about the red tape on the sidewalk. This tape is there to help those who come to the Food Pantry remain 6 feet apart.

Richard asked about roof repair of water leakage where the tower meets the roof. Father Rob said he contacted Steel manufacturing but has not heard back.

The floor issue in the basement is still not resolved. All repairs have failed. Tim from Krings is in self quarantine so this is on hold.

At 8:05 the meeting was closed with prayer for those on the front lines of the pandemic and for Dusty McCoy.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Patterson

Clerk of the Vestry