

ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

MINUTES, VESTRY MEETING, SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

The (Zoom) meeting was called to order at 11:40 AM by Rector, The Rev. Neil Tadken. Present were Sonja Shea, Senior Warder (2020); Lexi Bond, Junior Warden (2021); Dave Tolemy (2021); Kathy Eisel (2022); Lyn Walsh (2022); Lisa Kiriakidis (2022); Richard Beatty (2020); Raquel MacLaughlin (2020). Christine Pregent (2021) was excused. Also present were Steve Baker, Treasurer; Susan Goff, Clerk; Kent Jones, Director of Music; Darrell Clark, Supervisor of Sanctuary improvements.

The Opening Prayer was offered by Kathy.

The Minutes of the August 23, 2020 meeting were approved as presented.

REPORTS

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Steve. **MSC** (Sonja) to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Building and grounds Reports

*Darrell provided an update on the work in the Sanctuary. This included progress on lighting for the Reredos, stained glass windows and enhanced lighting for the congregation and the work on the chandeliers.

*Kent provided information on the progress of the organ restoration. It is now moving into phase 2, work on the console. Sean O'Neal had previously estimated total costs for the restoration/renovation, including phase 2. He presented a proposal for \$84,595 for this phase. **MSC** (Kathy) to accept the proposal.

*Church Garden – Fr. Neil introduced Dr. Kristin Ritzau, who is the Director of the Community Garden at 303 W. Colorado. She is also the Director of a 501 (c) (3) corporation, Food Exploration and Discovery, Inc., which is planning to work with schools (starting with Monrovia Unified) to coordinate gardening curricula for them. She is currently using the office formerly occupied by the Rev. Nathan Bjorstad. The Vestry welcomed her to the St. Luke's campus and looks forward to working with her. In other garden news: there is now full irrigation on the north side of the Church by the alley; planting will be the next step. The Tzu Chi grounds are looking very bad as they are no longer maintaining them; Fr. Neil will ask Vicente (St. Luke's gardener) for an estimate for basic maintenance of those grounds.

*Memorial Wall ` Junior Warden Lexi reported that her Memorial Wall committee had made some basic decisions and will have a comprehensive report for the Vestry at its next meeting.

DISCUSSION/ACTION

*Tzu Chi Lease: Fr. Neil received notice that the school would not be able to move out in September as planned; his response was that, as they still owe lease payments through the end of their contract, this was not an issue. What is an issue is that they are several months behind on their lease payments; Fr. Neil has not heard back from his inquiries to them about the payments. Meantime, Fr. Neil, Sr. Warden Sonja and Jr. Warden Lexi will meet with Episcopal Communities and Services, a service of the L.A. Diocese, to explore possible alternative uses for the building and surrounding grounds.

*Stewardship Campaign: Chair Kathy reported on the plans for the 2021 Stewardship Campaign, "Faith Filled Generosity." These include letters from Fr. Neil, Chair Kathy, "Stewardship Moments" during services, ending on November 22, 2020, with a blessing of the pledges and gifts.

*Church Window repairs: Fr. Neil reported that he is seeking further bids on the stained glass windows and Rose Window as the current bids seem much too expensive.

*Work Day: planned to be about the end of October.

*Doors, admin bldg: Fr. Neil indicated that since metal doors were probably not needed, he will get estimates for high quality wooden ones and will report to the Vestry.

*Cleaning Service: it was agreed by consensus that it is necessary to restart the cleaning service in the admin building, at least a couple of times a month.

*Apartment repairs: Fr. Neil reported that he had made several repairs to the apartment that were necessary for safety and comfort. **MSC** – Raquel – that Fr. Neil be reimbursed for these repairs in an amount up to \$2,000. He also reported that he is still awaiting word from Sean Spenser of City of Monrovia regarding the timing of the repair of the sidewalk in front of the apartment.

WORD FROM THE CLERGY

Fr. Neil reported that Trish Gresham's birthday is October 10 and, in her honor, a Zoom Service will be held. Notification will be sent to all parishioners and many of the others whose lives she touched. He also informed the Vestry that he will be having hip replacement surgery on October 1st and will be taking a few weeks for recuperation. Mother Judy will lead services on October 4 and Bishop Diane Bruce on October 11.

WORD FROM THE PEOPLE/VESTRY

In recognition of the faithful work of the Choir section leaders during the summer and the pandemic, **MSC** – Lexi – to provide a \$500 bonus to each of the four section leaders.

The Vestry met briefly in closed session to discuss a personnel matter (Minutes attached separately.)

The Closing Prayer was offered by Richard.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 PM

Susan Goff, Clerk