

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Windsor, Connecticut

March 14, 2023

Call to Order

Attendance

Because the vestry meeting was held via Zoom and recorded for future viewing, formal attendance was not taken.

1. Opening Prayers

The March 14, 2023, Vestry Meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. with an Opening Prayer by the Senior Warden Debbie Hutchinson.

2. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

5. Old Business

i. Website

3. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the minutes as written from the February 14, 2023 Vestry meeting.

4. Financial Reports

Treasurer Larry Young reported that the operating deficit has improved slightly over the last month. He stated that an increase in the performance of pledge payments resulted in that improvement. Our fund balance had been down to about \$10,000 and it is now at \$13,000. Larry reported that it is difficult to project our finances for the last four months of this year due to Father Chip's retirement and other factors. The deficit puts us on notice as a parish that we need to decide how to move forward without constantly tapping into the Tuttle Fund. An increase in revenue and a decline in expenditures would help with the Church's finances. A question was asked regarding the Finance Committee. Larry stated that he is trying to arrange a committee meeting to help us manage our operating budgets.

5. Old Business

a. Streaming Update

David Stender reported that training on the new streaming equipment will take place the last Friday in March. Ian Rickard, Wendy Beebe and Tom Woodruff will help initially; multiple training sessions will take place. Dave stated that just one person is needed per service to operate the system. The training will take place March 24th at noon.

b. SPC

1. Presentation by Ken Roach

Ken stated that his committee consists of himself, John Kelling and Paul Senk. They would like to meet with the Building and Grounds Committee to help determine priorities regarding the projects that need to be done in the Church. Ken reported that they need to categorize maintenance issues versus improvements. They are hoping to meet soon.

2. Presentation by Marcia Hinckley

Marcia stated that a presentation about historic preservation is needed to educate the parish as to Grace Church's role in the Windsor community. Marcia asked that a date be set when she could speak with others about preservation issues. A suggestion was made to have the presentation on Wednesday, March 22nd at 7 pm. We need to see how many people plan on attending.

c. Selling of the Organ Pipes

Debbie stated that there are no updates on this issue. It was suggested that Mark Child make the initial inquiries in order to determine who we can approach regarding selling the pipes. Parishioners have expressed concerns around the selling of the pipes. It was suggested that the matter be addressed at the May meeting after some research has taken place.

d. How to Pay for the Organ Computer

Larry stated that the purchase of the computer for the organ should be considered as part of the Church's operating expenses. As a result, the cost was covered by the Operating Fund.

e. Frozen Pipes Water Damage

Larry reported that Servpro hasn't started removing the wall boards to get to the pipes. It was found that asbestos was used to secure the wall boards and, as a result, an abatement specialist is needed to assess the situation and get approval. Once approval is granted, the pipes can be repaired and the insurance company can approve the work that has been done. It is still uncertain how the bills will be paid or if the Dioceses will assist us in paying for some of the damage. We are currently waiting for an update from the insurance company and the name of the contractor they would approve to remove the asbestos.

f. Lower Parish Hall Wall Removal

The suggestion of removing the temporary walls in the Lower Parish Hall was tabled to a later meeting. Pat Ould, who raised the issue, has been informed of this decision.

g and h. Update on Furniture in Music Room and Archive Storage

Debbie stated that helpers volunteering to declutter the Music Room will meet on March 18th at 2:30 pm. Artifacts will be boxed up and taken to the Tuttle House so that they can be reviewed and scanned. Debbie made a motion to temporarily relocate the archives of the Church to two second floor bedrooms of the Tuttle House. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously. After the archives are removed, the remaining furniture in the Music Room will be assessed.

i. Website

Debbie reported that she met with Jenny Hawran regarding the Church's website. Jenny will help us with our content. There were concerns raised as to what provider will be our web host and what name our website will use. Blue Host was suggested as a possible new provider. After much

discussion, it was decided that Debbie will investigate Blue Host to find out the extent of their upgrades to the website and particulars about their hosting. She will report back to the vestry.

6. New Business

There was no New Business scheduled on the agenda.

7. Questions, Concerns and Comments

- Lynn Rhodes requested that Sunday School be added to the April 11th Vestry meeting agenda.
- Katrina Woodhouse requested that a summary of Planned Giving be added to the April 11th Vestry meeting agenda.
- Debbie Hutchinson stated that she will be assisting Father Chip at the Maundy Thursday service for the washing of the feet.
- Dave Stender requested that folks approach him regarding their thoughts on the sound system after services on Sunday.

With no further business before the vestry, Debbie Hutchinson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. The motion was seconded and carried. Debbie led the vestry in saying a closing prayer.

JoAnne McLeod, Clerk