St. John’s Vestry

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting

June 8, 2021

Virtual Meeting

Present: Rev. Rob Stevens, Rev. Anne Williamson, Chuck Silva, Veronique Doherty, Ellie Sanderson, Randy Philbrick, John Bolduc, Kelly Boston, Barry Heckler, Rebecca Hennessy, Ally Dudas, and Chris Nettleton

Absent: Jeff Croteau, Gerry Simpkins, Karen Barsanti

**At 7:00PM, Chuck called the meeting to order.**

**1. Approval of the minutes from May 11, 2021 meeting**

*Motion to approve report was made by Barry and seconded by Kelly.* ***Vote:*** *All in favor.*

* **2. Regathering update (Rob/Anne)**
* The regathering services June 6 went really well.
* 9:30 a.m. outside service at Strawbery Banke was terrific
* checking people in worked really well, but are going to need help — Ashley and Jen did it this time but need others to do this - Looking for volunteers; checking people in is partly for COVID, but more importantly is to check and update the St. John’s information we have for people — this process has identified the need for a hospitality/welcome team
* 8:00 a.m. service in the Church also went well - people will be able to take their masks off and come to the rail soon
* continuing to offer the service virtually as well — this reaches those that cannot get to a service in person but is a lot of work for the staff so will be reviewing how this is done in the future
* 9:30 a.m. Thursday service will remain virtual for the time being —it is reaching 60+ people a week, where as in the past for the in-person service there were roughly only about 15

**3. Financial Update (Kelly)**

* Pledge offerings continues to be strong year to date. Plate offerings lagging slightly but should align quickly as we start meeting in person. Our metered parking income is increasing month over month. Other parking, was lower than budget as not all the passes were sold. We have sold $28K (of $79k budget assumption) however we will receive payments quarterly (vs. upfront budget assumption).
* Expenses are aligned nicely with budget; variances are related to timing, lower utility costs, an unforeseen repairs $4k and $1k related to additional audit expenses for audit completed in 2020

**4. Clergy updates (Rob/Anne)**

* Great to be seeing people in person; grateful to those that came to the services.
* Strawbery Banke was an amazing site and people did stop and listen; Strawbery Banke is not officially open yet, but once it is imagine more people will stop to listen to the music, etc.
* Ashley, Olin and Jennifer doing the checking-in, the music and acoustics at Strawbery Banke and in the church — they are going to need help doing all of this.
* Olin is managing all of the audio, which he is so good at — it is a blessing to have him
* there will be updated signs for the church and also at Strawbery Banke with times and locations of the services
* Coming back to in-person services is awesome and also a lot; people are at different places in the return to normal, so being mindful of this and prayers for the community and the world during this time
* thank you to the committee who have given a lot of thought to the re-opening

**5. Building update (Barry)**

* All contractors are now under contract - June 23 foundation ground break will start
* Tentative date for official ground breaking July 22 to be held in collaboration with Common Table; guest list being compiled and will invite a reporter from the Portsmouth Herald

**Closing Pray was read by Rob….John O’Donohue For a New Beginning**

**Meeting adjourned 8:10 p.m.**

*Motion to adjourn was made by Barry and seconded by Kelly.* ***Vote:*** *All in favor.*

**Next Vestry meeting Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 7:00**

(in the past the Vestry has not met in July and August, but given all that is going on at the Church and with the transition to a post pandemic world, Rob requested that these meetings be held)

Respectfully Submitted,

Lizzie Bristow

Clerk (substitute)