

Church of the Nativity
Minutes of the Vestry
June 16, 2020

Attending: Stephanie Allen, Michael Warrillow, Carrie Mash, Rene Garces, Cheryl Waechter, Robert Joines, Stephanie Sumner, John Oldham, Josh Booth, Kim Stoke, Lori Special, and Gail Christensen.

The meeting convened at 7:07 pm via Zoom video-conferencing due to all church services, activities and meetings being suspended because of the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

Rector's Report: Stephanie Allen

Stephanie reported that the staff is working hard despite the lockdown. Pre-recording of services was begun in May and this is going well as we work out the kinks. A pre-recorded funeral was particularly hard.

Stephanie will be on vacation July 4-10, July 18-30, and August 17-23. Deacon David Lynch and supply priests may do the services, but we could also simply use the Diocese's services.

Junior Warden's Report: Rene Garces

- 1) Last month B&G folks repaired picnic tables and benches located under oak tree.
- 2) Lawn service charge of \$225 per cut twice a month has been increased to cut further up driveway and about 50' along Ray Road once/month for \$25 extra, for a total of \$475/month.
- 3) Habitat House completed build using Habitat personnel, got certificate of occupancy 5/15, working on punch-list, and homeowners are slated to close in August 2020.
- 4) Rise Against Hunger event has been paid and is scheduled for Sunday 8/30/2020 but may be postponed if it is not safe to gather during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 5) Newcomb & Company has been selected for yearly HVAC service/maintenance. Agreement is for preventive maintenance to be performed twice/year starting July 1 at \$2604/year.
- 6) Yearly fire alarm inspection performed by Johnson Controls on 6/1/2020 resulted in fail.

Upcoming:

- Johnson Controls scheduled to troubleshoot fire alarm fail on 6/17/2020.
- Southern Energy Management (SEM) detected Estill House solar inverter fault and scheduled to investigate on 6/19/2020.
- Yearly emergency light inspection by Johnson Controls pushed out to 6/19/2020.

Carrie offered her thanks for all that Rene is doing during these difficult times.

Mortgage prepayment: John Oldham

Pledges have been kept up during the lockdown, but regular giving is a bit down. Expenses are down more than income, which helps. The Finance Team will be monitoring summertime giving, which traditionally slacks off.

We have about \$45,000 that has accumulated in our bank account from the Capital Campaign. The Finance Team recommends that we use this sum to pre-pay a part of the mortgage. Our reserve fund for emergencies and long-term maintenance will be untouched. The loan will be refinanced in 2023.

John moved that the Vestry agree to prepay \$45,000 to the mortgage. Michael seconded. The vote was unanimous.

PPP loan application: John Oldham

The deadline to apply for a government Paycheck Protection Program loan is June 19. The Finance Team will apply for the loan before the deadline, and if approved the Vestry must decide whether they will accept the loan.

Youth and Children's ministry update: Stephanie Sumner

Nativity's High School Graduates enjoyed being celebrated by their adoptive groups. There will be a senior liturgy and brunch on Sunday, July 26.

HUGS Camp has shifted to an online experience that will be held on Zoom and Facebook Live from Sunday, July 12, through Tuesday, July 14. Youth have been provided all the information for signing up as helper campers.

Pilgrimage is now scheduled for our rising 10th & 11th graders to go to Ireland with Wonder Voyage from Monday, June 14 - Tuesday, June 22nd, 2021. Youth and their families must commit by September 1st which will involve a questionnaire, meeting with Kathryn and a non-refundable deposit. Total costs are still being confirmed but the plan is for families to be responsible for \$750 with the balance being split between fundraising and the church. This is the only trip planned for summer 2021.

Inter-Faith Food Shuttle volunteer opportunities for youth 13 and older are scheduled for
Wednesday, July 8, 1-3:30 pm
Wednesday, July 15, 9am-12pm
Wednesday, July 22, 1-3:30 pm
Wednesday, July 29, 9am-12pm

No planning for the fall has been done due to waiting to see what the bishops instruct churches to do about gatherings.

One Nativity youth has been selected to serve on the CCY (Chartered Committee for Youth) for our Diocese.

Phase 2 update: Stephanie Allen

The Diocese has postponed going into Phase 2 from July 1 to perhaps August or September, because the numbers of positive cases and hospitalizations in NC continue to go up not down. We may be allowed to gather outside, limiting the numbers, observing social distancing, and wearing masks.

A survey to be conducted by the Communications Team was suggested at an earlier Vestry meeting, but Carrie admitted there is no point. We are in a holding pattern for making any decisions as we await guidance from the Diocese. Cheryl, Carrie, and Stephanie Sumner offered to work together on a survey about the “church of the future”, not just about reopening.

Approval of the May Vestry meeting:

The minutes of the May 2020 Vestry meeting were submitted for approval. John moved to accept the minutes as written; Robert seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

There being no further business, the meeting closed with a prayer at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Christensen
Clerk of the Vestry

The Next Scheduled Vestry Meeting might be (just penciled in) Tuesday, July 14 at 7 pm via Zoom.