

Sunday, May 9, 2021

Episcopal Church of the Atonement Vestry Meeting Minutes

Time: Sunday, May 9, 2021, 1:05 to 2:28
Location: Home Videoconference via Zoom
Present: Mother Erika Takacs (Rector); Greg Bradley (Warden), Liz Sarnik (Warden); Doug Wagner (Treasurer); Dave Beil, Richard Benson, Steven Britt, Bill Hancox, Barbara Newman, Daniel Polley, Peg Tomaszek (Endowment Guild), Michael Waltz (Clerk).
Absent: Natalie Archie, Will Cronenwett, Amanda Kim

Next Meeting: Sunday, June 13, 2021, 1:00 p.m. – home videoconference via Zoom.

Greg Bradley (Warden) called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Mother Erika gave an opening prayer.

Legacy Society: Peg Tomaszek reported that the Endowment Guild was recommending the establishment of a legacy society to encourage parishioners to include the Church of the Atonement in their end-of-life plans. The Society would periodically recognize those who have done so. A **motion** was made and **seconded** to establish The Atonement Legacy Society. After discussion the **motion passed with one abstention**.

Review of April Vestry Meeting Minutes: A **motion** was made and **seconded** to approve the minutes. With no questions or discussion the **motion passed unanimously**.

Treasurer Report: Doug Wagner presented April’s statements. Revenue was down a little but within the budget projections. Expenditures were slightly higher than expected. Large expenditures included the budgeted quarterly insurance and annual workers’ compensation premiums and the unbudgeted payment for the past due water bill. Overall revenue and expenses are in line with projections. The Finance Guild will look at the budget at the six-month point to see if adjustments are recommended.

Mother Erika noted that the detailed report for the AV project expenses will be available before the next meeting.

Outreach Report: Greg Bradley distributed the report prior to the meeting. There were no questions or comments on the activities.

Rector’s Report: Mother Erika reported that the Finance Guild reviewed the internal audit and procedures. The Guild will discuss putting together a team to develop and document financial best practices for the parish. A report to the vestry is expected for June.

In discussing the past due water bill Mother reported that we have water meters in the rectory and parish house but the city said they’re not working. Once the city repairs them she believes we will be exempt from paying for water going forward.

Action / Decision/Discussion Items:

1. Diocesan Guidelines. Required masks, the use of sanitizer, and social distancing for those attending mass will be unchanged, as will the protocols for the Eucharist. The guidelines increased attendance to 75 people per mass. Mother Erika recommended outdoor coffee hours beginning June 6th using individually wrapped food and pre-poured beverages. We need to identify leadership for the coffee hours. The Book of Common Prayer and hymnals will be returned to the pews. Liturgical changes will allow a masked quartet singing; the congregation will be able to hum but not yet sing. Clergy and readers who are fully vaccinated may remove masks when preaching or reading so long as they are properly distanced from others. The St. Cecilia Choir will do one Choral Evensong in June in the church without a congregation present. Priests and readers who want to remove masks and St. Cecilia Choir members who want to sing at Evensong must provide proof of vaccination. The vestry agreed to eliminate taking temperatures and asking the health questions. Mother will ask the Diocese if registration for mass is still required.
2. Garden. Liz Sarnik explained that a friend of Hector Hernandez is getting together a group of co-workers from Heartland Alliance to work on our garden this summer as a way of remembering Hector. She also reported that the garden sign is ready for installation and will be picked up later this week.
3. Small Groups. Mother and the Wardens discussed setting up small groups (about six people each) from the congregation to talk about what about Atonement worked in the past for them, what has changed, and what they hope for the future. They anticipate that the groups will start this month. Several vestry members volunteered to join the Deacons and others in facilitating the meetings. The next vestry retreat will be scheduled after the information gathered from the meetings has been compiled.
4. In Person Vestry Meeting. Greg Bradley asked for opinions and suggestions about returning to in person vestry meetings. After discussion it was decided that the first in person meeting will be in July for those who are comfortable with it. Anyone who isn't can join by phone or videoconferencing.

Before closing Richard Benson said that he would have a report on Realm for discussion at the next vestry meeting.

Dates for Calendar: Vestry meeting June 13, 2021, 1:00 p.m. via home videoconferencing.

Meeting adjourned at 2:28 p.m. following a blessing by Mother Erika.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Waltz
Clerk of the Vestry