

**St. Thomas Episcopal Church
Minutes of Parish Annual Meeting**

January 24, 2021

The Parish Annual Meeting met via Zoom at 11:am on Sunday, January 24th.

The meeting was called to order and opened with a prayer.

Rev. Melanie appointed Frances Conner as Clerk.

Minutes of the 2020 Annual Parish Meeting were approved.

Rev. Melanie announced the retirement of Pam Smith who had served as Clerk of the Vestry for the last 8 years. She thanked Pam for her years of service. A call for anyone interested to volunteer for this position to contact Rev. Melanie. Frances Conner, our Parish Administrator has been acting in this position in Pam's absence.

Rev. Aimee presented a very touching video of St. Thomas activities and events. many of our parishioners were a part of the video and the music was extremely moving.

Rev. Melanie thanked the outgoing members of the Vestry for their service. Bill Franklin, Senior Warden; Tracy Edgar, Co-Junior Warden, Hugh Papy and Ingrid Poppell. Rev. Melanie mentioned each outgoing member's talents and how appreciative she was for all of them.

The election results for new Vestry Members were announced. They are: Charlie Barrow, Paige Case, Eleanor Foster, and Stewart Marshall.

Mitch Green gave the Treasurer's Report. He reviewed last year's Financials. See attached report. 2020 was actually a good year. There is cash in the bank and all bills were paid in a timely manner.

The Financial Revue required by the Diocese was turned in on time, and we paid our full Diocesan asking for 2020.

He explained how the plate was down due to not being able to meet in person. Pledge was down somewhat and that could be due to those whose income has been affected by COVID. A Payroll Protection Plan Loan from the government aided out financial situation with a \$49,300 loan which we were granted. He expects this will be a forgiven loan which will turn into a grant. We are not eligible the new PPP loan, as it is geared to hospitality business which have been suffering greatly during this pandemic.

A question from the floor asked for further explanation of the PPP Loan, which Mitch responded to.

There being no further questions, Mitch presented the Proposed Budget for 2021 which the Vestry approved. Mitch thanked Bill Franklin, Rev. Melanie, Rev. Aimee and Frances Conner for their work in preparing the budget. (Budget attached)

Two questions came up: How many pledges for 2021 as compared to 2020? What is the loan balance?

After the budget was presented Mitch made the motion that the Budget for 2021 be approved. The motion was seconded and approved.

Joe Roberts gave the Buildings and Grounds Report. A lot of work has been accomplished due to a lot of hard work.

Stewart Marshall stated that the Pavilion looks great. Charlie Barrow expressed his thanks for all who worked on the project.

Bill Franklin gave the Senior Warden's Report. He stated that his work was made easier by the staff and Junior Warden.

He gave a presentation from the diocese detailing the changing of diocesan guidelines and the metrics of the diocese is watching. At the moment, levels are high. He asked that we all take care of ourselves and said that he has enjoyed serving on the Vestry as Senior Warden.

Rev. Melanie spoke about our worship program. She said that the Vestry had voted to use bench marks in going back to in-person worship. These can be found on our Web Site.

Rev. Melanie thanked Rev. Aimee for her video expertise. 2020 has been an uncertain time with a lot of sadness. It has been a challenge as to how to continue to be the Church.

She reported on the Parish Discretionary Fund. The fund received donations in 2020 in the amount of \$14,790. \$14,290 has been given away. The fund has a balance of \$3,000.

During 2020 we have used technology in ways we had not expected. It has been vital in preserving the spiritual life of the parish.

The meeting was divided into small groups for 10 minutes to discuss concerns and ideas for parish life.

When the small group meeting was complete everyone joined the main group.

The motion was made to close the meeting. The motion was seconded and approved.

The Parish Annual Meeting was closed with prayer.

Afterwards all vestry members were asked to remain on Zoom for a brief meeting.

Present were: Charlie Barrow, Rebecca McNicoll, Eleanor Foster, Stewart Marshall, Joe Roberts, Jane Gilchrist, Paige Case, Jeff Conner, Scott Tanner, and Ellie Titus.

Absent were: Mary Ryan, Mary Hardee

Jane Gilchrist volunteered and was elected as Senior Warden. Joe Roberts and Scott Tanner will serve as Co-Junior Wardens.

The monthly vestry meeting was scheduled for 6:pm on the 2nd Monday of each month.

Respectfully Submitted,

Frances Conner