

**ST. BONIFACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

Vestry Meeting Minutes - April 16, 2026

5:30 Gathering Time for Spiritual Direction – Nikki

6:00 The meeting was called to Order & Roll Call was held.

**Present:** Justin Miller (Sr. Warden), Mark Johnston (Jr. Warden), Cass Anderson, Suzanne Barksdale, Carol Gilchrist, Dick Smoot, Bob Moody, Prill Nugent, Trudi Williams, Christine Puthoff

**Zoom:** Marjorie Floyd, Wendy Prell

**Absent:**

**Other Attendees:** Nikki Seger (Rector), Sharon Alden (Clerk)

**Introduction:** Christina Sheehan, the new Director of Business & Finance was scheduled to be introduced to the Vestry but was unexpectedly ill.

**A. Consent Agenda**

1. March Vestry minutes
2. Treasurer's March Financial Reports
3. Senior Warden's Report
4. Rector's Report
5. Grants and Outreach Report

The Grants and Outreach report was pulled as there was a question regarding the funds raised for Rise Against Hunger. \$6,000 was needed but we raised \$10,000. Suzanne clarified that the excess funds will be sent to Rise Against Hunger.

Dick had a question about which groups get to raise money under the name of St. Boniface. Justin will check the bylaws.

A motion was made by Prill to accept the Consent Agenda. It was seconded by Carol and passed unanimously.

**B. Old Business**

**1. Litigation Update**

There is nothing new on the litigation. We are awaiting the decision by the judge.

## **2. Realm Update**

The conversion started on Tuesday, April 14 but there has been a hiccup and some of the text box information is not transferring. This information is important because it contains a record of contacts between the clergy and parishioners.

It was noted that this conversion is only the people portion and will enable easier communication among groups. The finance package is not included.

## **3. Personnel Updates**

### **a. Assisting Clergy**

1. The Rev. Katie Sorey from Mississippi applied for the position and Nikki was impressed during a zoom interview with her. She will be visiting May 1-3 and preaching here on Sunday, the 3<sup>rd</sup>. She will be meeting with the Vestry after the service.

2. Nikki is also looking at another applicant who is a seasoned priest. Nikki noted that there is a shortage and all dioceses are reaching out to seminaries as we are.

### **b. Deacon**

Elise is still on medical leave. The Bishop has extended her medical leave and after that there will be a discernment of the next step.

## **C. New Business**

### **1. Jr. Warden Report**

a. Mark talked about the state of the HVC systems and future needs. The units in the Parish Hall need replacement (one is already inoperable) and Mark got an estimate of \$11,000 for replacement. He is trying to keep the unit in the Youth Studio working as long as possible.

A motion was made by Dick to take the necessary funds from the Capital Reserve Fund. The motion was seconded by Cass and

passed unanimously.

- b. Mark thanked the vestry for the quick response to the email request for funds to replace the pressure pump for the restroom facilities in the main church. The vestry approved moving funds from the hurricane fund to the Capital Reserve Fund to cover this.

## **2. Investment Committee**

Dick said that Steve Schou has been asked to join the committee and asked that he be approved by the vestry. The committee would like to add another member and Catherine Cooper was mentioned as a possibility. Mark made a motion to approve Steve as a committee member. The motion was seconded by Bob and passed unanimously.

## **3. Insurance Update**

- a. The diocese is still working on providing more affordable insurance coverage.
- b. Options being explored are:
  1. The Church Insurance Group (covers Episcopal churches all over the U.S.). Churches have the option to determine the percentage of rebuilding costs (80%, 90%, etc.). This is for the current premium but carries more risk.
  2. A pilot program with Brown and Brown Insurance. They are a brokerage located in Tampa. This would provide umbrella coverage for the entire Diocese of SWFL and be apportioned among all the parishes.
- c. 75% approval from the churches will be required for the option chosen.
- d. Trudi said she has some questions and will be working with Joe as we wait for further information.

## **D. Other Business/Announcements**

### **1. Safety Protocols**

Justin reviewed the options available if there is a person on the campus who is unruly or is exhibiting bad behavior or actions.

In Florida, authorized leadership can issue a verbal trespass notice. If the notice is ignored, document the incident and call law enforcement.

2. Justin talked about the Water and Word Conference being held at Dayspring on May 1-2. There will be speakers and workshops and he encouraged people to attend.

#### **E. Vestry Minute and Presenter**

Bob will invite parishioners to the Water and Word Conference. He will also provide an update on our HVAC systems and remind parishioners that contributions are always welcome.

Post meeting evaluation: One Word checkout

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon Alden, Clerk of the Vestry

#### **Calendar Items:**

- Saturday, 4/18, 10am: Ralph McGimpsey funeral service
- Saturday, 4/18, 5:30pm: Aloha Party
- Saturday, 4/25, 6pm & 8pm: Candlelight Concerts
- Wednesday, 4/29, 5:30pm: Worship & Potluck
- Saturday, 5/2, 6pm: Taize
- Wednesday, 5/6, 5:30pm: Worship & Potluck
- Saturday, 5/9, 6pm & 8pm: Candlelight Concerts
- Wednesday, 5/13, 5:30pm: Worship & Potluck
- Wednesday, 5/20, 5:30pm: Worship & Potluck
- Thursday, 5/21, 5:30pm: May Vestry Meeting