

St. Boniface Episcopal Church
December 15, 2022 Vestry Meeting Approved January 19, 2023

Call to Order - The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

Roll Call

Vestry Members Present - Gino Fellin (Senior Warden), Randy Thomas (Junior Warden), Beverly Parker, Charlie Pettengill, Prill Nugent, Zerbe Sodervick, Larry Patton (Zoom), Holley Schroeder, Marjorie Floyd (Zoom)

Vestry Members Absent - Justin Miller, Phil Baker, Judy Stickler

Other Attendees - Wayne Farrell (Rector), Nikki Seger (Asst. Rector), Suzanne Barksdale (Treasurer), Joe Master (Director of Business and Finance), David Eichlin (Clerk)

Senior Warden Report - Google docs is up and running for the Strategic Plan. It will be an easy way to share information between committees and a repository for committee communications and notes. All of the committees have met at least once. The Hospitality and Welcome committee was commended for the Sipping at Sunset event. Justin was thanked for leading the event through the discussion period. Gino, along with Wayne, Nikki, Larry Patton, and Suzanne Gregory attended the Diocesan Convention on December 10th.

Junior Warden Report - The church is working with the Diocese which is coordinating the FEMA issues for all the churches damaged by Hurricane Ian. An assessment was done to determine the amount of damage done by Ian. This is a long and involved process with all that needs to be done. Because of Ian it has necessitated a reordering of church priorities. Many of the ongoing projects are still in planning stages due to the supply chain problems, getting reports from consultants, vendors' estimates, etc. A request was made by the Junior Warden to approve the purchase of a golf cart because the St. Boniface golf cart was recently damaged. It would be purchased from Affordable Golf Carts at a cost of \$10,200. \$5,200 will come from an insurance claim and \$5,000 will come from beach parking. The cart is used to support this project during high use. A motion was made to accept the motion, seconded and approved (with one abstention).

Treasurer Report - There was an increase in the BMO portfolio account. Plate, pledge and donor no pledge were under for November. Pledge statement reminder letters were sent to parishioners who have significant outstanding balances. Expenses for the month

stayed under budget; however we are keeping a close eye on electricity and water and sewer. HVAC maintenance was higher than budgeted due to needed repairs and coolant added to unit within the church.

Gratitude Commission - As of December 13, 2022 we are at 81% of our goal of \$812,660. Vestry members were asked to volunteer to make phone calls to non pledgers. Calls will be made next week in hopes of reminding parishioners to get their pledges to the office.

Strategic Planning - Thanks to the Sipping at Sunset event there are additional people from the congregation who have signed up for each of the committees along with some new ideas. Each of the committees have met at least once and the new volunteers will be incorporated with the vestry members on each of the committees. There are a number of guidelines for each of the committees to follow. Justin will coordinate and track all documentation through the tracking spreadsheet he has designed.

Nominating Committee - The committee brought to the Vestry a slate of four candidates for 2024 class. The names presented were Justin Miller, Rita Piovane, Donna Conyers, and Joanna Cleary. A motion was made to accept the slate. It was seconded and approved.

Addendum - For personal reasons, Joanna Cleary withdrew her name as a candidate for the Vestry. Kay Goodman's name was put forth. By electronic ballot she was accepted as the new candidate for the Vestry.

Grants and Outreach Committee - In 2022 grants for 11 ministries were approved. The ministries included helping abused children and women, prisoners to adjust to living outside prison, providing solar lights in Tanzania, medical assistance to impoverished children in Honduras, training to homeless veterans, supporting LBGTQ teen programs, aiding immigrant children without parents, and the great calling of feeding the hungry. There were also 2 All Faiths Food Bank events during the summer. In 2023 there will be another Rise Against Hunger event. It is undecided whether the goal will be 10,000 or 15,000 meals with a cost of \$4200 or \$5900 respectively. The cost is made up by members of the congregation. A grant for Project 180 in the amount of \$2000 was requested for general expenses occurring in assisting prisoners being released from prison. A motion was made to accept the grant, seconded and approved. The total package for 2022 for grants was \$51,000. Although all grants had been previously approved, a motion was made to accept the total package of \$51,000, was seconded and approved.

Assistant Rector Report - There were a number of highlights relating to my work since our November vestry meeting:

- Continued to support the strategic plan by (1) presenting a powerpoint at the Gratitude Commission breakfast; (2) helped to plan the strategic plan rollout at the “Sipping at Sunset” event; (3) attending an initial meeting of the “Serving Marginalized Family & Youth” strategic target group; and (4) preaching on Advent II about that target
- Attended CPR and AED training
- Attended SURE planning meeting and join the Affordable Housing research group
- Attended Bp Smith’s retirement party and also attended Diocesan Convention (where I was appointed to the Commission on Ministry by Bp. Scharf)
- Celebrated Holy Communion at Bay Village
- Led Thursday Bible Study and noon Holy Communion (3-8 attendees, on average)
- Began a three-year mentoring relationship with the Rev Suzanne Hood (Associate Rector, Christ Church, New Bern, NC) under the auspices of VTS’ Launching into Ministry program
- Climbed 35 feet, or so, onto scaffolding to change the light in the Nave over the altar (It was the most thrilling part of the past month.)

Rector Report - Wayne attended the Diocesan Convention in St. Petersburg. He was reappointed Dean of the Manatee Deanery. Cynthia Sands has applied for the Diaconate. A committee will be formed to confirm her call. In house church attendance has returned to about 70% of the 2019 attendance level. Online attendance has been as high as 100 from Florida and as far away as 10 from California and 7 from New York. Those who organized the Sipping at Sunset and Gratitude luncheon were thanked for all they did to make the events a success.

Old Business - There was no old business.

New Business - A motion was made to set the annual church meeting for January 29, 2023. It was seconded and approved.

Acceptance of minutes of November 17, 2022 Vestry meeting - A motion was made to accept the minutes, seconded and approved.

Vestry minute-for-ministry topics - Randy volunteered to present to the congregation. Topics to be presented are the new slate of candidates for the Vestry and the grant report that was approved for 2022.

Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Compline

Calendar items:

Lessons and Carols - Wednesday, December 21, 7:00 pm

Christmas Eve Services - Saturday, 4:00 and 7:30 pm

Christmas Day Service - Sunday, 10:00 am

Office Closed - December 26 & 27

Sunday, January 1 - 10:00 service includes blessing of a civil marriage (Conyer)

Epiphany Service - Thursday, January 5, 6:30 pm followed by reception

Seating of Bishop Scharf - Saturday, January 7, 10:30 am, St. Petersburg

Celebration of the Arts - January 14

Next Vestry Meeting - Thursday, January 19, 6:00 pm