

St. Thomas Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting Minutes
July 20, 2021

Meeting was opened with prayer at 6:03 pm by Fr. Bob.

Devotions with participation by all present.

In attendance: Fr. Bob Goolsby, Cindy Mitchell, Anna Andrews, Jodie Bevel, Sal Brucculeri, Rick Cabrera, Judy Fields, Clerene Jackson, Kathleen McCullough, Ben O’Kelley, Keith Myrie, Ed Ruddy, Ed Walker, Pamela Williams and Ralph Yearwood

Absent: Jadeen Wintz

May Minutes: Motion made by Ed Ruddy to approve the May minutes. Second by Ed Walker. Approved.

Senior Warden’s Report:

See report

Audit – The FYE 12/31/2020 independent financial audit is in process. Fieldwork has been moved from August to September.

Safeguarding Concern – Course has been migrated to a new site which may create a problem for those not yet logged in. Failure to complete certification may be an issue for VBS volunteers.

Property – Bids for cracked sidewalk repairs for the areas near the lobby were very high (\$6,800). Project is tabled for now.

Open/Close Building Procedures – A rotating schedule needs to be developed for Vestry members to take responsibility for opening/closing the building on Sundays.

Membership – Place Newcomer’s Luncheon on your calendar for Sunday, October 3.

Visioning – Paul Bruno, visioning consultant, will be at St. Thomas on Sunday. Please introduce yourselves if you are here.

Parish Life – Co-chairs and 4 other members resigned. Pam Williams, Vestry Liaison, will be following up to schedule a meeting in August. Please let Pam know of anyone interested in joining the ministry.

Coffee Hour – Rita and Tom have resigned after 12 years. ECW, Outreach and others have been contacted regarding adopting coffee hour for a month at a time.

Bread Angel Program – Rita and Tom also represented St. Thomas in the Publix Bread Angel Program. Outreach ministry has been contacted regarding taking over that ministry. If not, St. Thomas will lose its place as a participant.

Junior Warden: See report.

Treasurer: See report. Ralph Yearwood shared that Jan-May revenues were strong but fell short in June and likely will in July. However, the forecast is for revenues to exceed expenses for the year 2021. A motion was made by Kathleen McCullough to accept the June financial report. Second by Judy Fields. All approved.

Other Committees: None

Rector's Report: **Visioning** - Three Vestry members were invited to meet with Paul Bruno and be part of the visioning team. We will have a visioning event in October. The visioning process is very important to identify St. Thomas' core values, what its purpose is, etc. One focus will certainly be on attracting families/new members.
Diocesan news – There will be a regional Bishop Confirmation (likely at Federal Point) on November 14th. Inquirers' classes will begin on September 19th at St. Thomas. On August 29th, a group from St. Thomas will be taking Eucharist elements to serve at St. Mary's in Palatka, a small predominantly African American parish.
Christian Unity Service – The Christian Unity Service may be held at St. Thomas on January 22, 2022. Discussions are being held but uncertainty remains due to COVID-19.

Other Matters: Cindy Mitchell was joined by all in attendance to express gratitude to Clerene Jackson for her service here at St. Thomas over the past six months and extend best wishes as she continues her journey.

Ben O'Kelley asked if there was concern over increasing COVID-19 cases. Cindy Mitchell reminded all that safety protocols are still in place at St. Thomas and new developments will be monitored.

Fr. Bob expressed concern about the noise before Sunday services and asked that the Vestry lead by example. Please be respectful of those in the sanctuary there for prayer, reflection, etc. prior to services.

Ralph Yearwood asked whether the request for desires regarding a new Bishop could be shared with parishioners. The insert from the Diocesan Nominating Committee that appeared in the Sunday bulletin recently will be sent out to all subscribers via Mail Chimp.

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Other matters
(continued):

Ed Walker brought up issues that arose during Vestry calls to parishioners. All Vestry members were asked to report problems (incorrect telephone numbers, etc.) to the church office.

The next regular meeting will be on August 17th at 6:00 pm in the Parish Hall.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:57 pm with prayer by Fr. Bob.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah L. Snedeker
Vestry Secretary