

**Vestry Meeting**  
St. Francis By-the-Sea Episcopal Church  
January 19, 2022

Present via Zoom were Nathaniel Boëchat, Junior Warden Sarah Everdell, Heather Ford, Bill Gould, Treasurer Kevin Hunt, Tyler Knowles, Senior Warden Milissa LaLonde, Kate Mulrenin, and Clerk Chris Ramsay.  
Fr. Brent Was and Lynne Yurosko were absent.

Milissa opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. with a prayer.

The Vestry voted to accept the **minutes of the December 15, 2021 meeting.**

**Treasurer's Report** – Kevin Hunt

Kevin reported that there was nothing remarkable on Finance during January to date.

**Raising Revenue**

Challenges

We are operating with a deficit budget for 2022, as well as quickly depleting our Maintenance Reserves because of recent large expenses.

The Fair helped to accomplish both raising funds and as a source of affordable stuff for the surrounding community.

Discussion

Perhaps a three-pronged approach – (1) expansion of funds to support Outreach; (2) create revenue to fill the budget gaps; and (3) capital campaign assessment. The Outreach Committee is currently looking at supporting community needs and reaching out. The Finance Committee can look at ways to increase funds for general budget use, as well as the need for a capital campaign. The Building and Grounds Committee has specific upcoming project needs, and can help with the latter.

One reason people give money to a church is their care for the mission of the church, and part of that mission is community outreach. What role does that play in people's pledges? Perhaps Outreach should be included as part of Stewardship.

Going Forward

The Buildings and Grounds Committee will generate a prioritized list of needs and will take this to the Finance Committee.

The Outreach Committee is meeting every other week to identify needs and how to fill them.

**The Door**

Challenge

The outside door by Barbara's office has been significantly damaged from the inside – exactly when and by whom is unknown. It looks like we'll need a new one. Meanwhile, Dick Doane has jury-rigged a temporary solution that enables us to lock the door.

#### Discussion

Perhaps a monitoring device / camera? They've become less expensive than when the now-defunct Security Committee looked at that in the past.

There've been problems with the frame of that door in the past and it's possible it stuck and someone kicked it to try to open it.

The front doors don't latch easily, either. The door downstairs by the children's area locks in a manner different from the others, which has caused confusion in the past.

#### Going Forward

We'll replace or repair this door.

Ask casually and verbally if anyone knows what happened to the door.

Take a couple photos of it in case we need them later.

See if we have insurance that will cover repair or replacement.

The **Cleaning Crew** suggested they don't need to come twice a week since we're not having in-person services. For the time being, they'll come once a week (Saturday) and forego the Tuesday cleaning. This will be a small reduction in labor and a bit in cleaning supplies.

**Mardi Gras** is on Shrove Tuesday (March 1)

Should we do anything to celebrate?

Mardi Gras Bingo? Dress up as Jester? King & Queen of Mardi Gras?

Milissa will contact Lynne Yurosko to see if she'd like to run this a one-night Mardi Gras Bingo.

**Children's Education** is on hold, including Confirmation, because it really needs to be in person.

**Adult Education** has just begun, with Tim Ensworth's "Seeing Jesus" program on Zoom.

On **Inreach**, Milissa has some names of people she thinks might appreciate some contact, either telephone or a written note. Heather, Kate, Nathaniel, Sarah and Tyler said they'd help; Milissa will talk with them about this.

#### Discussion

Building community by building smaller community. Maybe smaller groups within the church.

Years ago, "cottage dinners" were done by St. Francis congregants – dinners with a different group of randomly assigned people.

A virtual movie night (virtual watch party), with everyone watching the same movie at the same time.

Breakout rooms after Coffee Hour after church.

**Buildings and Grounds** – alarm box & fire suppression system

\$15,000 has been allocated to upgrade the alarm box and inspect the fire suppression system.

Johnson Controls Fire Suppression Services came back with a very large bid for fire suppression system.

Eastern Fire, Fire Protection Contractors and Engineers came in with very reasonable bid.

They'll upgrade the alarm box for about \$3,900. They'll also inspect the fire suppression system for about \$700, as well as conduct a required bacterial inspection. Eastern's estimated total is about \$11,400 (if more problems come up, it may cost more).

These inspections must be one to comply with insurance requirements.

### **Other Business**

Chris expressed reluctance to have draft minutes to be posted on the website, feeling that minutes shouldn't be posted to the website until they've been approved at the following meeting. After discussion, it was agreed that minutes should be approved by the Vestry before being posted on the website.

The Vestry agreed that the church criteria should require in-person congregants to be "up to date" on Covid shots, rather than "fully vaccinated."

The next Vestry meeting will be on Wednesday, February 16 at 6:30 p.m., and will be Zoom only.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Ramsay, Clerk