

Vestry Meeting
St. Francis By-the-Sea Episcopal Church
March 16, 2022

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

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

The Vestry voted to accept the **minutes of the February 16, 2021 meeting.**

Treasurer's Report – Kevin Hunt

We have received about \$98,000 in pledges – about \$10,000 more than last year at this time. By the end of March, will probably have received more than half of the total revenue budgeted for this year. This is typically what happens. Much of this is because many people prepaid their pledge for 2022 in 2021.

The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loan has been completely forgiven.

Kate moved the Vestry formally approve a 3% salary increase for Brent, effective January 1, 2022; Milissa seconded and it passed unanimously. This has already occurred, but it was approved at the January 2022 Vestry meeting without a formal resolution.

Brent is out on short-term disability effective February 21, 2022. Short-term disability can continue for a maximum of 26 weeks. The end date (a “best guess,” which can be changed) was given as the end of April, as suggested by Windy. Kevin has emailed with Bishop Brown and spoken with Barbara Martin, the Diocesan Canon for Administration. Brent has named Kevin his Ambassador for things requiring administration at St. Francis. The Diocese suggested we handle this short-term disability by paying Brent his full salary, and receive the disability payments from the insurer (Aflac) into the church budget under Other Revenue. Even after paying the Supply ministers, it's a net monetary gain for St. Francis. **Sarah moved that we continue to pay Brent his full salary while he remains on short-term disability, Melissa seconded and it passed unanimously.**

Terry and Jim Briggs' donations of \$1,000 for the Wardwell fuel fund and \$700 to the Buildings and Grounds reserve fund have been received. Kevin hand delivered the fuel fund donation to Wardwell Oil, and the other has been entered in the Buildings and Grounds Reserve account.

A suggestion was made at church recently that the church purchase a car for a parishioner who needs but cannot afford one. Several people have expressed a desire to donate funds for this purpose to the church and have the church purchase the car for the parishioner. Kevin consulted Terry Reimer, Diocesan Canon for Finance and Stewardship, who strongly advised Kevin that this is called a “washed transaction” and that St. Francis

should have nothing to do with it. After discussion, the Vestry agreed we should follow Canon Reimer's advice.

Senior Warden's Report

Milissa and Sarah reported that Brent's tests have all come back negative. He enjoys jokes – send them to Windy, who will relay them to Brent.

Bob Publicover needs assistance – he's been managing the electronic content and Zoom practically single-handedly. Milissa will try to contact Matt Murphy to see if he might help. Maybe we could identify someone not in the congregation who might be willing to assist Bob.

Covid restrictions were discussed. After discussion, it was decided that Sarah will contact the Diocese and we will adopt their guidelines insofar as masking. We will still require those attending be fully vaccinated, still have plenty of ventilation with open windows and fans, and still provide an area with 6-foot distancing.

Kate proposed a marathon as a possible fund-raiser; she will bring it up at the Vestry's fund-raising possibilities meeting to be held on April 6.

Food for the Emmaus shelter has been donated, and has been taken weekly to the Emmaus Center by Judy Rountree.

Holy Week services –

Palm Sunday service (April 10) – Donna Downs

Maundy Thursday (April 14; 7 p.m.) – Donna Downs

Good Friday (April 15; 7 p.m.) – Elaine Hewes

Easter Vigil (April 16; 7 p.m.) – Jenny Reese, with Regina Christiansen preaching

Easter Day service (April 17) – Steve Hayward

Milissa believes that the Parochial Report has been received by the Diocese; she'll check with them to be sure.

Outreach Committee

Sarah reported on a Backpack Program organized by the Hands of Hope, an local organization working under the auspices of Community Compass. They work mostly with homeless teenage youth and some with domestic violence survivors. In addition to housing, they give a backpack with a couple changes of clothes and some hygiene products. Outreach has donated money for clothing but they need backpacks – gently used ones are fine.

The next Vestry meeting will be on Wednesday, April 20 at 6:30 p.m., and will be Zoom only.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Ramsay, Clerk