**Saint Brendan the Navigator**

**Minutes of the Vestry Meeting**

**July 11, 2019**

Present: Lis Ingoldsby, Jo Jacob, Miriam Antich, Barbara Kourajian (telephonically), Tom van Buren, Meg Graham and Pete Dane. Skip Greenlaw was present until the Vestry went into Executive Session.

I. The Minutes of the previous meeting of June 11, 2019, were accepted

II. The Second Quarter Financial Report was presented by the Treasurer. It looks like we end up being able to substantially fund the Depreciation Reserve line item.

III. Ministry Reports

1. Buildings & Grounds. Meg Graham reported that the Library is ready to open. The room will be made more inviting for use as a library. This means a change in furniture and removal of the piano. The honor system will be used for checking out books. An attempt will be made to have someone present on a scheduled basis for the month of August so that there will be predicable “open hours”. Also, an effort will be made to obtain responses from users regarding “holes” in the collection.

Many thanks were extended to Mickey Jacoba, Marilyn Verhey and Meg for their efforts in setting up this resource.

The ramp leading to the front door has been removed (thanks to Skip and his helpers) and delivered to HOME. Its removal revealed some deficiencies in the step supports. It has proved difficult to keep paint on.

Estimates on the cost of installation (including replacement of existing doors) and ongoing maintenance of true handicapped access doors compel a search for some alternatives. It was suggested that at least for now a simple battery powered doorbell be installed to call upon help to open the doors.

Discussion ensued about providing amplification of sound during Sunday services to address difficulties of the hearing impaired.

1. Outreach: Tom reported that grants were being made and future programs were being considered to follow up on the successful programs presented last month to the Congregation. Jo reported that Window Dressers has scheduled a build for Saint Brendan’s in December. It was suggested that the Congregational Church be solicited to help provide manpower for the build. Meanwhile orders need to be processed sooner than later.

Further inquiries about the logistics of sponsoring a performance by the traveling Haitian choir indicated that Saint Brendan’s could not possibly meet the requirements and that we simply publicize the event that will take place at St. Francis.

1. Pastoral Care: Miriam reported that the work is being accomplished that members of the committee wish to do. It is difficult to determine when intervention or support is wanted. Lay Eucharistic ministry is being underutilized. A separate Hospitality/Kitchen committee should be formed to deal with those specific functions.
2. Education & Spiritual Development: Pete listed the numerous events that the Committee, suddenly emerging to life, is sponsoring for the summer, including the recently completed series on Thomas Merton led by Ann Cushman, the new weekly sessions reading The Universal Christ, led by Bishop Sam Hulsey, and the upcoming presentations by Richard Mallory using depth psychology to examine Jacob, Joseph and Saul. Housing has been obtained for him for the month of September.

IV. Brief updates from the Search Committee and Nominating Committee were presented.

V. The initial draft of the Annual Report packet was circulated and the agenda finalized.

VI. A date of August 10 was tentatively assigned for the annual lobster picnic. Skip indicated he and Judy were prepared to put it together once a date and location was determined. The wardens will pursue arranging for a location.

VII. Skip raised his objection to the current policy of building use, indicating he felt that it should be revised to permit any member of the congregation to use the building for any purpose even if the function were not sponsored by any Ministry. The response was that any use of the building as a minimum must be coordinated with the Wardens to avoid conflict, and that use of the building for non-sponsored purposes should comply with existing building use policy, and that no exemption be made if the user happens to be a member of the parish.

The Vestry went into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20

Respectfully submitted,

Nathan Dane III, Temporary Scribe