

St. Barnabas Episcopal Church • Bainbridge Island, WA
July 17, 2022 Minutes of the Vestry Regular Meeting by Zoom Teleconference

Vestry Members Present—Barbara Bolles, *Sr. Warden*; Brian Andvik, *Jr. Warden for Buildings and Grounds*; Laura Bainbridge; Angie Bickerton; Kirk Eichenberger; Michael Ditmore

Vestry Members Absent—Judith Hanna, Claire Hicks, Steve Schmitz

On sabbatical—The Rev. Karen Haig

Others Present—Mike Killion, *Treasurer*; Katherine Bolles, *Chancellor*; Rebecca Ditmore, *Clerk*

Call to Order: 12:40 p.m.

<i>Item</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Speaker</i>
1.	Opening Prayer	<i>Barbara Bolles</i>
2.	Approval of Agenda	<i>Barbara</i>
➤	Motion: Approve the meeting agenda. MSP	
3.	Approval of Minutes from May 15, 2022 Meeting	<i>Barbara</i>
➤	Motion: Approve the minutes. MSP	
4.	Old Business	
4.1	Bishop’s Visitation 10/16/22	<i>Barbara</i>
	We anticipate we will discuss how to best have and continue hybrid services and Sunday School with the Bishop. Other ideas include recruiting strategies and approaches for getting more child and family participation. How do we actually count online Sunday participation?	
	<p>The idea of a planned giving workshop was discussed with the bishop to tentatively be held Saturday, October 15. It would be announced a month ahead to the congregation and other local congregations. If that day is unworkable, we will try to do it either before or after he come to visit the congregation. This is a “plan your own service” seminar (picking readings and songs); planning gifts; writing a will; planned giving to the church (and the Bishop’s Society); and discussing what to do with your body after your death—the variety of things available as options. The church site has a link which allows you to complete your will according to Washington state law. Power of Attorney and Health Care Directive forms may also be available. Barbara will pursue setting this up with the diocese.</p>	
4.2	Sabbatical Update and Beyond	<i>Barbara</i>
	The sabbatical team and congregation were thanked for their participation during this time. There is an upcoming docent led tour to the Suquamish Museum scheduled for Wednesday, August 10, at 1 p.m.	

The staff has been working hard: Paul made a special effort to prepare every bulletin for his entire vacation ahead of time, in addition to securing musicians and doing all his usual work; Tom closely monitored the paving of Gowan, demanding that the city repair damage that had been done to our sewer cleanout in the process; and Cera created work for herself, producing several new ways to communicate with the parish about sabbatical events.

All vestry members should send Barbara ideas for how to communicate our sabbatical journey to Rev. Karen.

4.3 Beyond Sacred Ground

Barbara/Kirk Eichenberger

New questions have popped up about other issues we could address, like the role of the church in stewardship of the planet. Sacred Ground is race/ethnic based, and we have members who wondered when some of the long term and growing issues faced by LGBTQ communities would be addressed. Issues of aging and dementia were also brought up as potential topics for discussion.

4.4 Covid Protocols

Barbara

The question has been raised that if now that our youngest children have the ability to be vaccinated, can we change masking? It was recommended by the staff that we wait until Rev. Karen returns to address this conversation, which is consistent with Rev. Karen's comments to the vestry before leaving on sabbatical.

4.5 Update on the Interium

Barbara

Steve has moved forward and ordered the pieces necessary to complete the project, avoiding a pending price increase. He has also arranged for a forklift to position the piece. Brian will look at the access for doing that, and confirm that is possible.

4.6 Parishioner Contact Efforts

Barbara

The vestry contacted slightly more than half the list. Results have been: I'm sick, I'm watching online, some people are now in church that we have called, some are traveling and will be back in the fall, I have health issues are am also concerned about Covid. It was decided that Barbara would send the remaining parishioner names to the vestry with the idea that they would be called before Rev. Karen returns in early September.

5. New Business

5.1 Senior Warden Initiatives

Barbara

Updating the photo wall was discussed and vestry members were asked to contribute new photos. It was suggested that a space on the wall be developed for those who have died. There is a need for a coffee hour participants (which would begin in the fall with Homecoming Sunday, after Rev. Karen's return, and be a simplified version of what we have previously done); the vestry was requested to think about who could participate from committees they are part of and pass those names to Barbara.

5.2 Congregational Development Grant

Barbara/Rebecca Ditmore

The grant process was explained and we will hear about the results of the grant request in September.

5.3 How to Inform Rev. Karen of Sabbatical Developments *Barbara*

Please share ideas about how we can show Rev. Karen our own progress during this time.

5.4 Finance Committee Changes *Kirk/Mike Killion*

Bill Magnuson has sent a letter that he is stepping down as a member and chair of the Finance Committee. This leaves Mike as treasurer, Borgan Anderson, Kirk Eikenberger, and Barbara (for Rev. Karen) on the committee. The committee will meet and discuss this, and look at what new members could be recruited. Vestry members are requested to provide names of parishioners who also could serve in this capacity. Things are improving with the bookkeeper, and as long as Julie Houck stays with us, we are currently caught up with bill payment. Once Rev. Karen returns, we will look for a new bookkeeper.

6. Reports

6.1 Treasurer's Report *Mike Killion*

Pledge income for June was down about 55%. In the summer months our income fluctuates; expenses were down slightly, which explains the net loss compared to the plan. For the year, we are still net positive, however, we will need pledges to come as planned, plus gift income, and new pledge income in order to breakeven at year end. Julie Houck was thanked for her great help in making things continue to work smoothly.

➤ Motion: Accept the treasurer's report. **MSP**

7. Parish Chancellor Update *Kathy Bolles*

The chancellor worked with the senior warden on the Department of Revenue and Secretary of State annual reports which need to be filed to keep St. Barnabas operating in good status. St. Barnabas's annual report was filed on paper at the beginning of June (due June 30). We recently received a delinquent notice (although the check had cleared). When the Secretary of State's office was called, the chancellor was told that the secretary of state's office is two months behind in processing applications. No further action will be required. The chancellor will keep the vestry apprised of developments.

8. Action Items

- Barbara will work with diocese on setting up "plan your service" workshop.
- Barbara will send list of names for the parishioners left to contact, to be called before Rev. Karen's return.
- All vestry members were requested to send new photos for the photo wall to Cera.
- All vestry members were requested to think about who would be good to participate in a simplified coffee hour.
- All vestry members are requested to send names of parishioners who might serve on the Finance Committee to Barbara.
- All vestry members should send Barbara ideas for how to communicate our sabbatical journey to Rev. Karen.

- The treasurer will send any previously unsent reports to the clerk.
- Angie and Kirk volunteered to help with announcements during the service.
- Brian will confirm there is forklift access to install the metalwork in the interium.

9. Closing Prayer

Barbara

10. Adjournment

Barbara

- Motion: to Adjourn at 2:32 p.m. **MSP**

Faithfully submitted,

Rebecca Ditmore

Rebecca Ditmore
St. Barnabas Vestry Clerk