

**St. Barnabas Episcopal Church Bainbridge Island, WA**  
**March 19, 2023 Minutes of the Vestry Regular Meeting by Zoom Teleconference**

**Vestry Members Present**—Barbara Bolles, *Sr. Warden*; Brian Andvik, *Jr. Warden for Buildings and Grounds*; Tom Beierle; Michael Ditmore; Judith Hanna; Claire Hicks; Mary Anne Smith; The Rev. Karen Haig

**Vestry Members Absent**—Steve Schmitz, Laura Bainbridge

**Others Present**—Katherine Bolles, *Chancellor*; Kirk Eichenberger, *Treasurer*; Rebecca Ditmore, *Clerk*

**Call to Order: 12:34 p.m.**

- | <i>Item</i> | <i>Topic</i>   | <i>Speaker</i>  |
|-------------|--|-----------------|
| 1.          | Opening Prayer   | Claire Hicks    |
| 2.          | Spiritual Reflection   | Rev. Karen Haig |
| 3.          | Approval of Agenda   | Barbara Bolles  |
|             | The treasurer's report will be moved up in the meeting. The MBTI discussion will happen during another vestry meeting.   |                 |
| ⇒           | Motion: Approve the agenda as amended. <b>MSP</b> .  |                 |
| 4.          | Approval of Minutes from February 19, 2023 Meeting   | Barbara         |
| ⇒           | Motion: Approve the minutes. <b>MSP</b> , with two abstentions.  |                 |
| 5.          | Treasurer's Report   |                 |
|             | Our balance sheet will be sent out every month, with a more detailed report sent quarterly. The market has adjusted itself down in the last year. Although we took endowment funds in 2022 to cover some expenses and the sabbatical, we are still in good shape. Between 36-40% of our income comes in during the first few months of the year so things are strong income wise, people have been prepaying their pledges for the whole year. The Hodges endowment income has been paid to us. Our diocesan assessment has increased due to the increase in our income. Expenses will be catching up to income soon. There was some conversation about the FDIC limits. Kirk will investigate that with our banker at Homestreet. |                 |
| ⇒           | Motion: Accept the treasurer's report. <b>MSP</b> .  |                 |
| 6.          | Old Business   |                 |
| 6.1         | Insurance Coverage and Earthquake Coverage Update  | Brian Andvik    |
|             | The insurance coverage we have at St. Barnabas is for replacement value, and this figure is updated every year by the diocese, currently covering us for over \$4 million. Historically and currently there has been no earthquake insurance coverage for St.  |                 |

Barnabas and for most churches in the diocese, as the coverage is exorbitant. The diocese has negotiated a limited earthquake policy for churches in the Diocese of Olympia. At a cost of \$740 a year, we will receive \$300K in damages, with a \$15K deductible. Brian recommends that we add this insurance to our coverage. (The organ is considered built-in equipment and will be covered with the total building coverage.)

- ⇒ Motion: Approve the execution of an earthquake insurance policy for the entire structure through the diocese, with coverage for \$300K with a \$15K deductible, at a cost of less than \$800. **MSP.**

## **6.2 Interium Rates Update**

*Kirk Eichenberger*

A price needed to be established for the interium, and based on information from Rev. Karen, and the prices on the island, the Finance Committee recommends increasing the niche price from \$1,850 to \$2K, with a whole plaque on the plaque wall priced at \$1,600. The rector could make exceptions in special situations. Periodically, the price would be adjusted as needed. The interium is mostly filled, with fewer than twenty niches available at this time. The vestry will consider adding new banks of niches at some future point. The new price will be all inclusive without added charges for plaque engraving, opening/closing or other miscellaneous issues, including engraving. The plaque wall will hold sixteen remembrances, and other walls could be added.

- ⇒ Motion: Approve the price change of a niche to an all inclusive \$2K, with the pricing for a full plaque of \$1,600. **MSP.**

## **6.3 Legacy Giving Proposal**

*Tom Beierle*

Tom gave a progress update. He and Mike Killion have been working on this, and presented some facts to the Finance Committee. The overriding principle is to keep it as simple as possible. 1) The responsibility for dealing with legacy giving rests with the vestry. No other board or committee will be created. 2) Keep fund options as open as possible, at the discretion of the vestry, without donor restrictions, as stated in the Gift Acceptance Policy from September 18, 2020. 3) Avoid any recognition that appears to privilege legacy givers. The Finance Committee had some idea that any money in a bequest be treated as an endowment fund, which is not the case. Legacy giving funds are to be available for operations, programmatic, and capital needs. The Finance Committee will continue to discuss. Tom would appreciate hearing from anyone with thoughts on this topic.

## **6.4 Funeral Planning Party Update (The Last Hurrah!)**

*Barbara/Rev. Karen*

This idea was conceived by Paul Roy and Rev. Karen, and it will include music, readings, liturgy, legacy giving, and other elements of end-of-life planning. The date of the event is April 30, 2023. It was suggested that a subsequent event cover eulogy writing, bequests, etc. Program TBD after further discussion.

# **7. New Business**

## **7.1 Banking Resolution**

*Katherine Bolles*

This banking resolution now includes all four signers on all open accounts with the exception of the rector's discretionary account. The rector is the only signer on that account.

⇒ Motion: Approve Resolution 2023–4. **MSP**.

## **7.2 Holy Week and Easter**

*Rev. Karen*

The vestry is asked to participate in the Maundy Thursday meal. Vestry members are table hosts, and the expectation is that church leaders will be at all services during Holy Week.

These are the most important days in the church year and it is important that church leaders be present. Please email Rev. Karen about your availability and if you have ideas about who else can host a table that evening.

## **7.3 Strategic Planning Update**

*Barbara*

The initial and second meetings took place and the group will meet twice a month, with the goal to be near completion by the middle of June. Vestry members who are committee liaisons will be contacted by Strategic Planning Committee members.

## **7.4 Earth Day**

*Barbara*

We will have a speaker on Sunday, April 23, following Earth Day and she will ask us to discuss questions after church in the parish hall. The program will be open to the wider public and all are encouraged to invite others.

## **7.5 Paul Roy's Last Sunday**

*Rev. Karen*

Paul is inviting alumni choir people and he will be playing the music he played his first Sunday at St. Barnabas. Rev. Karen would like to have a luncheon after that service, with the vestry hosting. The Search Committee for his replacement has been organized and there will be a Zoom committee meeting before Holy Week. There will also be a congregational survey regarding the new music director.

## **8.0 Reports**

### **8.1 Day School Report/Rector Remarks**

*Rev. Karen*

Rev. Karen covered the day school in her rector report. It was decided that the school will hire someone who can be present in the classroom so that we meet our standard of care with two people in the room at all times, in keeping with our Safeguarding Rules.

## **9. Parish Chancellor Update**

The Parish Chancellor has no update.

## **10. Action Items**

*All:*

- Let Rev. Karen know if you are aware of someone who can train to do Sunday f filming.
- Contact Rev. Karen if you cannot be at the Maundy Thursday meal and service afterwards.
- Contact Tom if you have thoughts or ideas regarding the Legacy Giving proposal.
- Invite those interested to attend the April 23 Earth Day acknowledgement service and reception afterwards.

*Brian Andvik and Kirk Eichenberger*

- Follow through on attaining earthquake insurance for the church.

## **11. Closing Prayer**

*Claire Hicks*

## **12. Adjournment**

*Barbara*

⇒ Motion: To Adjourn at 2:27 p.m. **MSP**

Faithfully submitted,



Rebecca Ditmore  
St. Barnabas Vestry Clerk