

Episcopal Diocese of Rochester
Standing Committee Meeting
Zoom Videoconference
4/28/2021

Present: The Rev. Cameron Miller (president); the Right Reverend Prince Singh; the Very Revs. Leslie Burkardt, Ruth Ferguson, Ken Pepin; Floyd Bayley, Joseph DaBoll-Lavoie, Michael Davis, Carolyn Mok (secretary).

Guests: Todd Rubiano, diocesan CFO; the Rev. Virginia Mazzarella; John Mike, Ed Milton from Zion, Avon; Beth French, John Gibbon from Trinity, Geneva.

The meeting was **convened** at 4:01 pm.

Opening prayer was given by Carolyn.

Consent agenda was approved. Moved, Michael/seconded, Joe.Ginnty

Minutes of the 3/24/21 meeting were approved. Moved, Michael/seconded Joe.

ZION, AVON, BOILER.

Ginny, John and Ed presented the resolution for Zion to borrow funds from the Sibley loan to replace the dying 15 year old boiler. The parish decided to get a more efficient, smaller commercial boiler; and had gotten 3 bids. The parish would also like to change to LED lighting. The net costs would be neutral financially. The building needs to be heated because it has a nursery school in the building. Todd thought the loan should be approved, and stated that the parish is healthy, and at low risk for defaulting on the loan. Prince commented that the parish has done very well spiritually and financially under Ginny's rectorship. It is a story of resurrection. Standing Committee was impressed with their study, and Cam asked if the leadership could write up their process as a model for other parishes who might need large items.

The Committee voted unanimously to approve the resolution that Zion, Avon borrow up to \$28,940 for the purchase of a new boiler and updating the lighting. Moved Ruth/seconded Leslie.

SALE OF TRINITY CHURCH, GENEVA.

Presided by Michael, Leslie. Beth French, John Gibbon, wardens and Cam Miller, rector presented their plan to sell Trinity, Geneva. The parish has a large, historic building that is very expensive to maintain (51% of budget was for building expenses). The idea to sell the church started around 2016, when Cam was called to be a part time rector. After 7 months of discernment, the parish overwhelmingly agreed to sell the church; however, there was opposition from the city resulting in the sale being adjudicated for 3 years. The appellate court approved the church's plan. The building will be bought by a developer for \$340, 000, who wants to turn the building into an event space and boutique inn. Trinity can sign a 10 year

lease, \$1/year, and can use the building for Sunday and other services, and office space. The money from the sale will be used for mission.

Todd and Prince said that trustees have been very involved with this process and holding the papers. Prince stated that the parish has done very well, another example of resurrection.

The Committee voted to approve the certificate of resolution regarding the sale of Trinity Episcopal Church, Geneva. Moved Joe/seconded Floyd. Abstained, Cam. Otherwise, the resolution passed unanimously.

BISHOP'S REPORT..

Business meetings. Committee members like video conferences. There is an environmental benefit of not driving to meetings, enables people who don't live in Rochester to participate, obviates concerns about bad weather driving, and is more efficient. **Standing Committee unanimously agreed to continue virtual business meeting.**

Diocesan convention, 2021. **Standing Committee agreed to hold the diocesan convention on line.**

In person gathering. There are also benefits for gathering in person, mostly in developing relationships. Hopefully we can meet in person this summer, outdoors in good weather. We could have a ministry/mission fair, and share stories of resurrection and sorrow. This would provide an opportunity for networking. This could be part of the 90th anniversary celebration of the diocese.

New clergy. Prince had a good initial meeting with the new clergy. The Zoom meeting can be accessed through the diocesan web site.

Parochial visits. Prince has resumed in person visits of parishes, while meeting with vestries on line.

Personal. Prince's and Roja's house has been sold, and will close at the end of May. Prince will rent his new lodgings.

Once around review was done. NO concerns was raised.

Closing prayer was offered by Cam.

Meeting was **adjourned** at 5:47pm.

Next meeting, 5/26/21 at 4 pm via Zoom. Opening prayer; Michael, closing prayer, Leslie.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Mok