

**Episcopal Church of the Ascension**  
**Vestry Minutes**  
**July 1, 2018**

**PRESENT:** Rev. Javier Garcia Ocampo, Senior Warden Betsy Hasegawa, Junior Warden Janet King, Rose Buck, Gordon Donnelly, Meredith Horan, Susan McLaughlin, Luis Pedron, Berenice Rodriguez, Bob Waters. **Absent:** Zadinga Ogada, John Pruessner. **Guest:** Kristen Keating.

The meeting opened at 2:03 p.m. with a short prayer and check in around the table.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Janet moved that the consent agenda be adopted with exceptions to be added to the meeting discussion. Bob seconded the motion, and it passed.

**ORAL REPORTS**

**“Linkages to Learning” project.** Guest Kristen Keating reported on our annual project to provide backpacks filled with school supplies to needy students at Summit Hall Elementary. Kristen gets a list of supplies needed from the school and parishioners purchase the materials. Cash donations pay for the cost of the backpacks themselves; it was noted that there is a balance of more than \$480 in the budget for them that could be used to purchase extra backpacks.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Contracts review.** Berenice said there are four kinds of contracts for use of the church; (a) Sandy Ridge Academy, (b) use of offices, (c) 12 step programs, and (d) social uses (weddings, parties, etc.). New contracts need to be drawn up for each of these cases.

**Update on Fredy Diaz.** Javier related the current situation. The deportation order has been lifted. Fredy will remain in custody until his case comes before the judge in 3-4 months. The letters written for him have been sent to his attorney. Only his family is allowed to visit him, but we can all write letters to him, and we can all go to the hearing once it’s scheduled.

**Music Minister search.** Due to the reduction in salary offered, the position has been posted again. Gordon said the committee will have its first interview this coming Thursday. He reported that there are several good candidates, and the posting is still open.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**By-laws review.** The current by-laws were emailed to vestry members earlier by Betsy. This will be further discussed at a later date.

**Committee responsibilities and functions.** Ascension needs to focus on building strong committees with clearly defined responsibilities. In the recent past, the vestry has taken on too much itself instead of delegating. Betsy would like the committees to have charters and be working by the end of summer. She asked everyone to think about good candidates for specific committees and asked that all ideas be forwarded to the vestry clerk.

**Request to use the chapel by St Barnabas Deaf Church.** This congregation of about 10 members had been looking for a new place to hold services and contacted Ascension. They held

a trial service in the chapel today. The vestry discussed an appropriate amount to ask them to donate for the use of the building. Rose made a motion that we allow St Barnabas congregation to use the chapel while a contract is created between them and Ascension. Meredith seconded the motion and it passed.

### **OPEN MIC**

**Use of Godly Play room.** Gordon reported that he was told Sandy Ridge had been using the Godly Play room during the week. They are not paying for the room and should not be in it, although if just passing through on the way to rest rooms, that is acceptable.

**Note from Enid Cole.** Enid, our former Senior Warden, sent a thank you card to the vestry, thanking them for all their support during her work toward the diaconate.

**Recognition of our office staff.** Gordon suggested that the vestry send a special thanks to the office staff for all the work they do and do so well. Discussion of an appropriate way of doing so followed. Gordon made a motion that Ascension give an expression of appreciation for the hard work and support that Lin and Eleni provide the parish and community, at the cost agreed on by the vestry. Janet seconded the motion and it was passed.

**The kitchen.** Susan suggested that once the kitchen is usable again, we establish new guidelines for users. The guidelines must state, among other things, that any person(s) using the kitchen must clean it thoroughly before leaving, including having everything put away. Susan suggested that we have not just one or two certified food handlers, but as many as 25. This needs to be a parish-wide endeavor. The food handling class covers the many, many areas where things can go wrong in a kitchen. A request for people to become certified will be put in the weekly bulletin; Luis volunteered to write the request.

**Annual Giving Campaign.** Susan attended the diocesan annual giving workshop. It is now time to start developing our campaign for the fall. She said step one is to set a goal, and that it should be about Ascension's mission. Vestry members were asked to think about ideas for a mission statement and email them to Javier this week. Meredith suggested that the thank you notes that are sent to pledgers have pictures of the vestry on them.

**Yard work morning on Saturday July 7.** The high school group that maintains our grounds is off for the summer (although the leader of the group is doing our mowing). The church will hold an outdoor work day (8 am to noon) to tidy up the grounds of the church, chapel and Ascension House. Javier asked that each vestry member join in, whether they can do yard work or not. Janet recommended that we start planning for the work day earlier in the year and have a list of tasks that need doing.

**ADJOURNMENT:** At 4:43 Berenice moved that the meeting be adjourned. Rose seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sari Stoddard  
Clerk of the Vestry