

St. Antony of Egypt Episcopal Church
Minutes of the Bishop's Committee
April 8, 2021 via ZOOM

The Bishop's Committee meeting was opened with a prayer lead by Esther O.

Attendee's present were Vicar Bill Fulton, Esther Osborne, Penny Whitney, Dee Perreira, Peter Stockwell, Jim Foley, Julie Sherwin, Loretta McGinley, Dave Peterson, Chelsea Reeder, and Bill Thaete

Fr. Bill lead a Bible study on Acts 2: 42-47

Review of Minutes:

Everyone was in favor to accept. Motion Passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Jim F. shared the Budget Performance and Account Balances charts and noted that currently we are still in the same, looks like we are spending faster than taking it in, but hopefully in person will help build excitement and easier to acquire new parishioners. However, St. Antony got issued a \$1,100 storm water mediation annual fee that came out of budget but there is still money in the checking account and the DIF is going up. Fr. Bill brought up about the "Giving" and commented seems to be in the middle or a little low and Jim F. concurred but said, we shall see what April brings. Jim F. then mentioned he received an email from the Bishop that the Diocese will give St. Antony credit on having purchased equipment for doing online services and should be able to deduct it from the Assessment. However, there will be no payroll protection plan moving forward.

Penny W. motion to accept and Chelsea R. seconded Motion Passed.

Old Business:

Re-open plan: set a date

Fr. Bill shared a COVID chart from Kitsap County Health Department as it showed that the numbers are going up and not looking to encouraging. However, Fr. Bill had given a suggested target date of May 9th to re-open as St. Antony will be on break. Esther O. asked about the two weeks we are off so Fr. Bill shared on April 25th St. Antony will participate in the one service with the Bishop that the Diocese puts on and May 2nd joint virtual service with New Fellowship church. Loretta M. questioned on how does Bishop Rickel feel about the guidelines on re-opening? Fr. Bill responded that he was told to abide by the Governor's guidelines which is at 50% capacity so, since most of our members are vaccinated, we should be good to go. Julie S. added how is St. Antony to handle the capacity and Fr. Bill responded that the total amount of members is under the required capacity, so we are okay, and Bill T. assured that the chairs are well spaced out. Fr. Bill's proposal to re-open on May 9th will remain the target date and will keep track on the cases then confirm as the date gets closer.

Peter S. brought up a reminder on Ushers that there should be a meeting and training as the date gets closer and Fr. Bill confirmed that reminder and will set a date. Dave S. asked about having the congregation attend and Fr. Bill stated that anyone who wants to come can come.

Stewardship banquet – Oct. 21

Fr. Bill informed the BC that Bishop Rickel was invited to speak at St. Antony and chose October 27th as the date but had to revise it to October 21st, which is a Thursday, so we should have ample time to plan.

New Business:

Building Use Policy – Loretta M.

Loretta M. had brought up the Building Use Policy that seems to be unclear and wanted to get clarification as there are two groups (Project Linus and a quilting group that one of church member, Carol Nau is affiliated with) wanting to use St. Antony property. Loretta M. proposes to get a confirmed clarification on the Building Use Policy due to unknown role and responsibility and fees. Other BC shared their feedback and the outcome for this matter is Peter S., Dee P., Penny W and Dave P. will get together to revise and confirm the current plan on the Building Use Policy. Loretta M. wanted to confirm the two inquiries on using St. Antony and was advised by Peter S. to inform them we will have a decision by the next BC meeting and Loretta M. acknowledged and will send them an email.

Esther O. – Polling on Faith Formation

Esther O. had asked the BC on their feedback for Faith Formation, asking for a polling and asked “What do we consider to be part of Faith Formation?”

Fr. Bill considers Godly Play, Vicars Bible Study and Acolytes (which Acolytes is needed, so if anyone is interested please sign up – Dee P. volunteered).

Loretta M. considered the Wednesday programs as it gives a variety and a template of prayer group.

Penny W. added to the Bible Study, how it could help and having a daytime and/or evening program for a Saturday as some people work and cannot attend Thursday’s session.

Fr. Bill also shared that they used to conduct Episcopal 101 with 3-4 sessions for new people as Esther O. asked about education.

Julie S. then mentioned that both Esther O. and her are planning zoom meetings for Youth and Adults and asking, “What’s going on or What’s missing?”, also the idea of having the Youth share some experience with the Adult like going to Conventions, etc.

Peter S. mentioned in the past for Youth there were Vacation Bible School and Pageants. Chelsea R. also shared that there were quite a few Youth Rep. and programs and then Dee P. gave an input about Hawaii experience where an Adult from the congregation was a Godparent to a youth so they would get together to go to the library or have breakfast/brunch after church or attend spaghetti dinner and so forth.

Long-Term Planning – Bill

Fr. Bill announced that he will be turning 68 on September 29th and retiring on September 30th, which will be his last day. He wanted to give us ample time as finding someone for this position will be a challenge. However, he has shared information on the Transition Plans and advised us to meet Arienne Davison, Canon to the Ordinary, in charge of clergy transition to help us. BC shared some heartfelt feedback and got emotional but overall, as this announcement was shared, we will move forward and spend the best few months with Fr. Bill and make the best of what time we will have with him. Peter S. will be forming a search committee and will also be in touch with Arienne so that the BC (excluding Fr. Bill) can meet with her and ask questions or any concerns.

BC meeting was adjourned at 8:08 pm

Submitted by Dee Perreira