

Church of the Holy Nativity, Aina Haina

Minutes, Vestry Meeting

October 20, 2020

Convened by Zoom

Attending: Ed Moore, Jean Steele, Gretchen Yamaguchi, Rich Miller, Austin Nakoa, Joe Kindrich, Wyn Aubrey-Child, Lila Johnson, Nina Livingston, Nancy Thomas

Absent: Justin Donahue, Jeff Taylor, Tusi Mayer

Guests: Jeanne Wilks, Robert Steele

The Rector opened the meeting at 6:07 p.m. She welcomed Jeanne Wilks, Interim Head of Holy Nativity School.

Interim Head of Holy Nativity School Report: Jeanne reported that her staff are “ultimate professionals,” dealing with the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic with aplomb. They and the families feel safe in the school environment. Good communication is continuing with parents. At the beginning of the school year, 11% of the children were learning from home; that number has decreased to 6%. Since the school re-opened on July 6, there have been no cases of the virus. Four of the administrative staff have completed contact tracing training. HNS is operating with a deficit because of the costs of cleaning and safeguarding everyone in the environment. So far, these measures have cost \$30,000.

The annual Pumpkin Festival has been re-imagined as nine evenings, each with two family movie screenings. They learned from the recent first movie night and now better manage the cars, etc. Jeanne reported that her 2020-21 budget was for 139 students but they have only 120. HNS will accept more students throughout the year but only for those classes which have ample social distancing. She expects that some families will be sorely stressed by having their children at home continuously and will make application to HNS for admission.

HNS has a television commercial advertising its rolling admission process. The church has a one minute and twenty second video, plugging the parish’s welcoming stance and programs. It is shown before each movie screening at HNS. This Friday morning, Jeanne will appear on KHON television to describe the Pumpkin Festival. All nights except one are already sold out.

Rector’s Report: Reverend Libby has been focusing on formation, families and Stewardship this Fall. Under Formation, she listed Introduction to Contemplative Prayer (led by Libby), Advent through poems and short fiction (Ed Moore), Bible Study (January; Frank Cordello), Quiet Days in Advent and Lent (Libby and Louisa LeRoux). Turning to Families, Reverend Libby reported that the family service on the second Sunday of every month has been well received. Each time she has a new or continuing family participate. She has also obtained the names of the new and younger children at HNS and is beginning to visit with their families to introduce them to the parish.

Diocesan Convention is this Saturday. The bishop has prepared an excellent explanation of the budget for the diocese. Besides our clergy, student in formation and our parish lay representatives, Vestry are invited to “attend” the Zoom session.

Gretchen and Reverend Libby have had two lengthy and “wonderful” consultations with Kingsley Kalohelani. He has sent proposals, recommending audio-visual equipment purchases and installation. The purchases could take one to two weeks. Kingsley could then install on Saturday, November 15, and for the first two Sundays in Advent, he would be available to help with successful implementation. The system would be significantly more-high tech, low-touch than our process today, which requires a 4-member tech team. Gretchen and Libby have chosen fewer components and some at less cost than the range suggested to them. The costs will be about \$10,000 and Reverend Libby recommends an honorarium for Kingsley.

Senior Warden’s Report Austin addresses the Thrift Shop’s Aloha Container. Due to the accident involving the container and the subsequent legal actions, we have earmarked it for sale. It is 45 feet by 9.5 feet and can be expected to bring about \$15,000. When it is gone, a rock wall with a chain link fence atop it will be erected. The goal is year-end.

Junior Warden’s Report Joe Kindrich was not able to make himself heard through Zoom, so Austin delivered his report. Joe is working on the problem with the concrete fence near the Keiki facility. The Thrift Store had an electrical short circuit which must be resolved. Lighting for the cross has been installed. Austin will donate lighting for the sign and the church will pay for the wiring. Sewer scoping continues.

Treasurer’s Report Jean reported that our cash balance is down to about \$77,000 and she reviewed how much of our budgeted rental income has been received. She explained that Tithe.ly has been selected for online giving and will be implemented immediately. Her reports are attached.

Unfinished Business Bob Steele, chair of the Pledge Drive, reported on the committee membership, the goals of \$130,000 and 40 pledging units, TENS materials in use and the preachers and speakers lined up for the drive.

New Business Wyn Aubrey-Child made a presentation on the Outreach efforts thus far in 2020 and those proposed for the rest of the year. Because of the unemployment and underemployment resulting from the pandemic’s impact on tourism, some activities have been suspended, but contributions to food ministries have been several. The report is attached.

Reverend Libby reminded members of the Saturday, November goal-setting meeting. She does not know yet if it will be on Zoom or in person. If Zoom, the schedule will have to be tight to encompass all the necessary work. She spoke of the “pledge letter” she has just written to the congregation; she told the congregation that, of the many ideas the vestry brought forth in July, we have taken action on more than half of them. At the November 7 meeting, we will develop recommendations for the new Vestry to address in January. Libby will send all the Vestry members the agenda for the meeting.

Lila asked if “inreach” included cleaning the nave. It does not but Libby observed that that expense needs to be in the budget.

Jean reviewed the appropriating and spending recommendations in the Outreach presentation and the Vestry voted unanimously for them.

Ed Moore made a motion that \$as much as \$11,000 be spent on the A-V system. Wyn seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Ed Moore recommended that Holy Nativity publicize its church services and programs in the newsletter *Next Door Niu Valley*.

Reverend Libby adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

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Minutes, Vestry Vote by email

October 22 and 23, 2020

Email Recipients: Ed Moore, Jean Steele, Gretchen Yamaguchi, Rich Miller, Austin Nakoa, Joe Kindrich, Wyn Aubrey-Child, Lila Johnson, Nina Livingston, Nancy Thomas, Justin Donahue, Jeff Taylor, Tusi Mayer, the Reverend Libby Berman.

On Oct 22, 2020, at 11:50 AM, Jean Steele <jeanalgy@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Vestry,

At our Tuesday meeting I told you we had only \$77,000 on hand (and more than \$50K of it is separated into the Maximiser account because those funds cannot be comingled or used for operating expenses). Also, we approved about \$14,000 for Outreach and as much as \$11,000 for the audio-visual project. What I failed to do was to ask you to authorize me to withdraw money from our Invested Funds so we would have enough cash to do those things we voted to do.

Therefore, I am asking you now to allow me to withdraw \$20,000 from our Operating Fund investment account. (Next month I will probably ask for more to get us to Dec 31, but I will do that in a regular meeting.)

Please reply with your vote: YES to withdraw \$20,000. NO to not withdraw.

If I get enough votes, I will submit the paperwork tomorrow/Friday afternoon.
Mahalo. Jean

“Yes” responses were received from Ed Moore, Jean Steele, Gretchen Yamaguchi, Rich Miller, Austin Nakoa, Joe Kindrich, Wyn Aubrey-Child, Lila Johnson, Nina Livingston, Justin Donahue and the Reverend Libby Berman. There were no responses by 9:30 a.m., Friday, October 23, 2020, from Jeff Taylor and Tusi Mayer. The withdrawal of \$20,000 from the Operating Endowment was authorized.

Submitted by Jean Steele