SAINT PAUL’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Minutes of the Vestry Meeting
July 14, 2020

There was a Zoom meeting of the Vestry of Saint Paul’s Episcopal Church, Chestnut Hill, on the above date at 7 p.m.

There were present Ruth Desiderio, Rector’s Warden, presiding; also Interim Rector Albert J. Ogle, and Vestry members Lisa Budd, Chip Butler, Steve Camp-Landis, Cheyenne DeMulder, Clark Groome, John Kimberly, Steve Pearson, Kristen Poole, Louise Thompson, and Hugh Williamson. The Rev. Barbara Abbott, St. Paul’s consultant, and the Rev. Canon Carrie Schofield-Broadbent, canon for transition and church development in the diocese of Central New York, were also present.

Mark Duckett and George McNeely were absent.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

I. Canon Carrie Schofield-Broadbent assumed the chair and opened the meeting with a prayer.

II. The minutes of the July 7, 2020 Vestry meeting were approved unanimously.

III. Carrie defined “core values” as the things that make us a community, that make us who we are. Core values are where you reside, she said. If they were taken away you wouldn’t recognize the community.

She shared a list of possible core values that were “on the shopping shelf” and asked for any additions to her preliminary list. Several were added. Each Vestry member was asked to put 10 "X"s next to those that each felt critical to making St. Paul’s St. Paul’s.

After that had been completed a lengthy discussion ensued. Several items garnered the most attention, allowing us to consider whether they were at St. Paul’s core. In no particular order those were: “Serving the community;” “Nurturing the faith of children;” “Music;” “Anglican Heritage: Scripture. Reason, and Tradition;” “Worship/The Book of Common Prayer;” “Maintaining parish traditions/honoring history;” “A ‘big tent’ where all are welcome;” “Our church buildings and sacred spaces;” “Supporting one another in hard times;” and “Fellowship/hospitality/receptions.” These were identified as “actual values.”

Three others – “transparency,” “inclusion,” and “accountability” – were identified as “aspirational” values, values that the parish might like to do more about as we move forward.
Carrie said, “We’ve gotten a lot accomplished. We’ve done a lot of work for one night.” It was agreed that one more session together would be useful and that we should meet with her again in late August.

IV. The next meeting of the Vestry, a brief business session, will be on Zoom on Monday, July 27 at 7 p.m.

V. Following Carrie’s closing prayer, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Clark Groome
Secretary