***Vision Statement: A world healed by love***

**DIOCESAN BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**January 18, 2022 – Zoom**

**12:00 Noon – Board Meeting**

Paul Frolick opened the meeting at 11:26.

Attendees: Dan Kenney, Molly Payne-Hardin, John Rohde, Martha Berry (Chancellor), Jonathan Fellows (Chancellor), Bishop DeDe Duncan-Probe, Paul Frolick, Canon Carrie Schofield-Broadbent, Debbie Barker, Becky Drebert, Chris Day, Henry Wakefield (property), Steve White (treasurer), Cathay Hobart (controller), Brad Benson (Standing Committee Rep.), Sarah Alamond (Board Secretary)

**During Combined Standing Committee/Board**

* Resolution to sell the property at 304 North Main Street, Elmira (formerly Trinity Episcopal Church)

**Opening Prayer –** The Rev. John Rohde

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_072DH1-yvwE5gSvnN-qqgWOrei2WOv0/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=102876395177954125134&rtpof=true&sd=true>

**Introductions:**

**Role of the Board**

* [DiocesanCanon XIV](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_072DH1-yvwE5gSvnN-qqgWOrei2WOv0/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=102876395177954125134&rtpof=true&sd=true)
  + Set policy for the diocese, subject to the Diocesan Convention
  + Articulate the mission and formulate strategy
  + Prepare the budget and submit to the Diocesan Convention
  + Are the trustees of the diocese
* Question Blast on Job of the Board 3 different times in the last 6 weeks. All 3 have had different “flavors”
* Question Blast for the Diocesan Board meeting today:

Emotional Temp: I’m cool, fine, ok, thumbs up, I’m ok

* How do we train new board members?
* Are there things that we do that we shouldn’t and things that we don’t do that we should?
* How do we communicate our strategies to the diocese?
* How do we develop our strategies?
* How do we find out what’s going on in the diocese?
* In what way is this work essential to the ministries of the parishes?
* Do we have enough people to do this work?
* What voices are missing for us to communicate this work?
* How can we best support the parishes living into God’s dreams to them while living in this call?
* How do we keep all of these balls in the air?
* What has outlived its usefulness?
* Do we need a more representative body?
* What do our parishes wish we were doing?
* How is this Gospel work?
* Is someone writing this down?
* How do we work with the other diocesan leadership boards?
* Do our parishes know that we exist?

Emotional Temp: Still fine, good, Thumbs up

The Diocesan Board:

* Google Drive
* Working Committees: Finance, Property, Ministry Grants, Vitality Markers, Canon Committee
* We’ll be setting priorities for the year out of the learnings from the diocesan discernment process.

**Consent Agenda**

* [Minutes of December 2021 meeting](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Od-m_IkHNQgzTHNWmBVDnxvBfeLd9vOmDiMNKj9o5uI/edit?usp=sharing)

Motion to Accept the Consent Agenda. Dan Kenney moves, Chris Day seconded. All in favor, motion passes.

* Approval of [steam boiler replacement for St. John’s, Whitesboro](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1U63IYo63oOgL04WHf7QesqO0TEJFuqyv/view?usp=sharing) (Online vote)
* St. Peter’s, Bainbridge - [Foote Estate Funds letter](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rM659EfovI4RKPrfDOwobGQcvsz_1tsE8s3jdUkW5Rw/edit?usp=sharing)

**Reports**

* Canon’s Report
  + Updated last time on year-long development plan. Meetings every other months: small church resource group, church leadership group, wardens’ meetings, Roundtable discussions
  + Interviewing Canons - a lot of work, but delightful and hopeful.
  + Continue to do formal and informal coaching for clergy and lay leaders
    - our diocese is going through this pandemic well, but there are still a lot of pinch points.
  + Always feeling tension in finding clergy for part-time parishes
  + Vitality markers work continues.
  + Working with COM to interview people who are entering the ordination process
  + Speak Faith - a lot of excitement this year. Now under leadership of Molly Payne-Hardin
  + Paused in-person visits due to Covid / Omicron
* Financial:
  + Steve White:
    - Cathy is doing all end of year stuff / payroll. No reports this time, but next time we will have a lot.
* Chancellor’s Report
  + Martha Berry:
    - Nothing to report this meeting. Volunteers to be on the Cemetery committee set up by Henry Wakefield.
  + Jonathan Fellows:

We have several lawsuits against diocese and local churches.

* + - * Discovery is going forward on one that is not insured that we know about. This case is from the 1960s and we know very little about that priest at that time.
      * Still hoping to find insurance on the cases where it can’t be found.
* [Property/Foundation Report](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hCLTggrYpp_Y4-WUjnRFnpz5ryEPxkxA/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=102876395177954125134&rtpof=true&sd=true) 
  + Henry Wakefield:
    - Property Cmt. has had a busy few months.
      * A few more parishes closed, sso looking at how to deal with those.
      * Grace Waverly purchase agreement signed by bishop.
        + We will execute a pre-possession doc so they can be in by Feb 1.
        + Jonathan Fellows reviewed the purchase agreement and gave go-ahead to sign.
        + We need approval from the Board to sell the property. Listing was not needed.
      * St. George’s Chadwicks closed - need approval to have appraised.
      * St. John’s Whitesboro - got approval to get a steam boiler - in place, just needs to be connected.
        + Hot water boiler is an issue. May need to be replaced, but may hold out.
        + Church has been sold.
        + Do we want to replace the hot water boiler at $7800?
        + *Chris Day Q:* Can it be repaired or replaced? A: best to replace.
      * Cemetery sub-committee:
        + needs to get going
        + becoming a problem
        + Some churches considering closing and that have closed have issues that need to be resolved.

Pierrepont Manor

Grace, Willowdale

Trinity, Elmira

interested in donating to veterans, homeless, but now that Trinity is closed, that property is owned by the diocese and we need to figure out what to do with them.

* + - * Brownville closed in November. Looking at separating property with rectory.
      * Interest from someone in Clinton to help with Paris Hill.

**New Business**

* Appraisal for St. George’s, Chadwicks - $2,200 to CNY Pomeroy Appraisers

Resolution: Motion to approve $2200 for appraisal of St. George’s, Chadwicks. Chris Day moved, Debbie Barker seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion Carried.

* Approve the sale of [Grace, Waverly](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1TwdAmf4WlfqdNC4dnfGcBYSAMX7Hj_CY/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=102876395177954125134&rtpof=true&sd=true):

Resolution: Motion to approve the sale of Grace, Waverly. Chris Day moves, Becky Drebert seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion Carried.

* Sub-committee for Cemetery issues:

Resolution: Motion to thank Martha and Henry for taking on the Cemetery Sub-committee. Steve White moves, Debbie Baker seconded. All in favor, none opposed. All in favor, none opposed. Motion Carried.

* [Hot water boiler for St. John’s, Whiteboro](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1U63IYo63oOgL04WHf7QesqO0TEJFuqyv/view?usp=sharing)

Motion to replace the Hot water boiler at St. John’s, Whitesboro. Dan Kenny Moves, Molly Payne-Hardin seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion Carried.

**Items under Committee Review/Consideration**

* Vitality Markers - [Congregational Conversations](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/14lvmdHa2hdlZnwq_bfD1n24x1bKBAW5feEUwJSqjVHc/edit?usp=sharing)

Carrie and Paul described information in the slideshow linked above, describing the work of the Vitality Markers Committee.

* *Cathy Hobart asked: Do you need financial support for this process? possibly travel reimbursement, but hopefully we will have people in close proximity to the work that this might not incur too much for the volunteers.*
* *Will you use Question Bursts for this process? Yes!*

**The Bishop closed with prayer at 12:21pm.**

[**Future Meeting Dates and Times**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Mo-hPXNHqCvGHWkW_KyqPMsEzmzBhu4p/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=102876395177954125134&rtpof=true&sd=true)