

## **BISHOP'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING Minutes**

Prince of Peace Episcopal Church

February 16, 2022

Meeting was held on Zoom

**Present:** Steven Ellis, Interim Vicar; Marcia Kelley (2025), Sr. Warden; Mary Macy (2025), Treasurer; Rachel Bertoni (2023); Susan McNaught (2023); Diana Rainey (2023); Nick Fortey (2024); Sue Rembert (2024); Bill Dalton (2025);

**Guests:** Ann McBride and Barb Ross

**Bible Study:** Nick led reflections on Psalm 86 and Psalm 62

**Opening prayer:** Steve+

**Appoint a Clerk Pro Tempore:** Barb Ross was appointed.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

- a. Minutes of the 2022-01-19 and 2022-02-02 meetings will be considered at the next meeting.

### **Approval of Agenda** M/S/P

### **Interim Vicar's report:**

- a. Steve+ welcomed the newly-elected and continuing members of the BAC. He acknowledged we are all grieving and encouraged us to be gentle with one another and with ourselves.
- b. Steve+ invited each person to share why they were willing to serve on the BAC and what they hoped to accomplish.
- c. He introduced Marcia Kelley as the new Senior Warden, thanked her for taking on the responsibility, and said he looks forward to working with her.
- d. He explained that Dropbox is the container Prince of Peace uses as an archive and as the vehicle for BAC communications. The church has a Dropbox account. Members do not have to have personal accounts in order to use it. Steve+ and Rachel will work out the details of Dropbox and take us through it at the next meeting.

- e. Steve+ reviewed the Prince of Peace mission statement and encouraged the BAC to orient their work, motions, discussions, and decisions in light of the mission statement.
- f. He hopes the BAC will be able to schedule a 1-1.5 day retreat later this spring.
- g. Steve+ invited people to debrief the Annual Meeting.
- h. A need was expressed for better understanding of the roles of the Senior Warden and members of the BAC.

**Senior Warden's Report:**

- a. Marcia shared how Steve+ invited her to serve and why she accepted.
- b. Appreciation was expressed to Marcia for taking on the role.
- c. Marcia said she wants to communicate regularly with the congregation and has already written a draft of a letter which she agreed to share with the BAC at the end of the meeting.
- d. Marcia has spoken with Mary Knutsen and she is willing to continue as chair of the Fundraising Committee.

**Election of Clerk:**

- a. Susan is still a member of the BAC but has stepped down as clerk.
- b. Marcia announced that Barb Ross is willing to serve as clerk with the understanding that an assistant clerk will be asked to serve when Barb is out-of-town.
- c. It was clarified that according to the Prince of Peace bylaws, officers of the BAC do not have to be voting members. Officers are elected for a term of one year and/or until their respective successors are elected and qualified.
- d. A motion was made to elect Barb Ross as clerk. M/S/P

**Junior Warden:** This position has not yet been appointed.

**Treasurer's Report:** No report at this time.

**Old Business:**

**1. Pallet homes/micro shelters**

- a. Steve+ reported that members of Prince of Peace donated over \$6000 to be used for pallet homes/micro-shelters.

- b. The BAC had previously decided that we would divide our offering between Peace Lutheran and St. Paul's. However, Peace Lutheran decided not to make a contribution and St. Paul's has already sent in their contribution.
- c. A motion was made that we send in our contribution in our own name. M/S/P

## **2. Search Committee**

- a. The next steps in the transition process would normally be for the Profile Committee to write an advertisement for the new position and for the BAC to appoint the Search Committee.
- b. However, in light of Prince of Peace's current situation, Steve+ and Barb Ross, chair of the Profile Committee, sought advice from Canon Linda Potter, our transition consultant, and The Rev. Chris Craun+, Missioner for Thriving Congregations for the Diocese of Oregon.
- c. The consensus is it would be wise for Prince of Peace to take some time before moving to the next step. Once we have a better idea of who and where we are and where we are being called to go, we will have a better idea of what steps to take next - including the changes that will need to be made to the parish profile.
- d. Marcia said there has been some conversation about the possibility of Prince of Peace partnering with a nearby congregation to share a full-time clergy position.
- e. The BAC agreed we need to take some time to seek further input from the congregation and to explore all options.
- f. A motion was made to postpone discussion of appointing the Search Committee until the April meeting. M/S/P
- g. Rachel requested that Steve+ share the information regarding Search Committees that Linda Potter previously gave to the BAC with the new BAC members.

## **New Business:**

### **1. BAC meeting times**

- a. It was decided that the BAC would continue to hold its business meeting on the third Wednesday of the month but the starting time will be moved to 6:30.
- b. It was decided to go back to only meeting once a month providing the BAC is able to have a retreat later this spring.

c. The BAC will continue to call special meetings as needed.

## **2. Return to in-person hybrid worship**

- a. With the number of covid cases, hospitalizations, and deaths rapidly declining in our area, it was decided to return to in-person hybrid worship beginning Sunday, February 20.
- b. People will have the choice of worshipping in-person or continuing on Zoom.
- c. We will continue to follow diocesan and state guidelines.
- d. We will expect those worshipping in-person to wear masks and socially distance.
- e. We will open windows and use the exhaust fan so it may be chilly for those worshipping in-person.

## **3. Bishop's Visitation on Sunday, February 27**

- a. Bishop Diana will worship with us and preach on February 27.
- b. We will have a special Coffee Hour with her on that day.
  - i. After people pick up their food, we will have opportunity for conversation with the Bishop.
  - ii. The Coffee Hour will be on Zoom for those who are not able to attend in person.
  - iii. Marcia will invite volunteers to plan the coffee hour.
- c. Bishop Diana also will meet with the BAC.
- d. On February 20, we will have a special coffee hour to plan for the Bishop's visit.
  - i. What do we want to know from her?
  - ii. What do we want her to know about Prince of Peace?

## **4. Shrove Tuesday**

- a. We will not have a Pancake Supper this year.
- b. Hopefully, by next year it will be safe for a large group to meet and eat in person.

## **5. Lenten Study**

- a. This year's Lenten Study will be on Tuesday evening.
- b. We will focus on "The Life Cycle in Congregations: A Process of Natural Creation and an Opportunity for New Creation" by Arlin J. Rothauge which is a classic study of congregations in transition.
- c. Because the book is out-of-print, Steve+ will make copies of the material available to those who are interested.

**Action Items:**

1. Steve+ and Rachel will figure out what is going on with Dropbox.
2. Marcia will coordinate with Steve+ to send out the letter from the Senior Warden.
3. Steve will contact Linda Potter regarding the Search Committee.
4. Steve will share the Search Committee information received from Linda Potter with all of the new BAC members.
5. Steve+ will begin a conversation with Linda Potter and Chris Craun about the possibility of Prince of Peace sharing a full-time priest position with another congregation.
6. Steve+ will begin promoting the Lenten Series and will make copies of the book for people to read.
7. Rachel noted that we need a new chair for the Communication Committee. This will be added to the agenda for March.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, March 16 at 6:30.

**Closing prayer:** Rachel

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Ross, clerk