

July 15, 2020 – 5:30 PM
Holy Faith Special Vestry Meeting

DUE TO HEALTH PROTOCOLS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, THE VESTRY MEETING WAS HELD VIA ZOOM

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Father Robin Dodge, Guy Gronquist, Paul D’Arcy, Dan Green, Leslea McCabe, Van Swift, Charles Chambers, Walter Sterling, Charles Rountree

MEMBERS ABSENT: Heidi Hahn

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: Father Jim Gordon

OTHER ATTENDEES: Bishop Michael Hunn, Canon to the Ordinary Lee Curtis

- **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. by Father Robin who led the Vestry in an opening prayer. This special meeting was called to review additional documentation received from the Diocese regarding the Bishop’s Ridge property gift.

- **Bishop’s Ridge Property**

Following the approval and delivery of the Vestry position statement on the future of the Bishop’s Ridge property, additional documents were located in the Diocesan archives which clarify the ‘moral obligation’ issue raised in the ‘Bateman Report’ and addressed by the Vestry of Holy Faith.

Bishop Hunn began the discussion by apologizing to the Vestry and to Holy Faith for the misunderstanding surrounding the possession of documents relating to the Bishop’s Ridge property gift. A search of the Diocesan archives brought additional information to light, specifically a resolution contained in the Holy Faith Vestry minutes dated May 19, 1987 which states:

In a regular meeting held on May 19, 1987, the Vestry of the Church of the Holy Faith recognized the moral obligation placed on the Diocese of the Rio Grande by a previous Resolution of the Vestry of this parish, dated September 10, 1963, and further acknowledged in a special meeting of the Vestry of Holy Faith and the Standing Committee Committee [sic], on January 24, 1987.

This Vestry hereby releases the Diocese of the Rio Grande from the aforesaid moral obligation regarding disposition of the Camp Stoney property.

The Vestry, recognizing the Diocese’s reliance on this resolution, wanted to go on record as affirming the 1987 Vestry Resolution. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to that effect.

The Bishop expressed his desire that Holy Faith and the Diocese would continue to work towards a positive future together and asked to hear from each of the Vestry members present. The Vestry expressed relief that this issue has been resolved and confirmed a commitment to working in harmony with the Diocese. It was noted with regret that a diligent search of records prior to publishing the 'Bateman Report' would have precluded this issue from taking place. It was emphasized that it would be necessary to exercise complete transparency in communicating the outcome of these discussions to the Parish and the Diocese. The Bishop acknowledged that unnecessary tension had arisen between Holy Faith and the Diocese. He also assured the Vestry that whether Bishop's Ridge continued to function as a camp and conference center or if it were sold, the intent of the gift to support youth ministries and education would be honored. He went on to say Holy Faith would be represented on any committee created to establish an endowment fund for the use of the funds in the event of a sale. It was suggested that a joint statement be crafted by Fr. Robin and Bishop Michael to inform the Parish and the Diocese of the outcome of these discussions.

The Vestry thanked Bishop Michael and Canon Lee for the time they have devoted in helping resolve this matter.

There being no further business, Guy moved, and Leslea seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. ***Carried unanimously.***

The meeting closed in prayer, led by Bishop Hunn, at 6:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Rountree