

# THE PARISH OF THE ADVENT

## MINUTES OF THE VESTRY

**Type:** Special Meeting

**Date:** January 7, 2021

***Via Remote Communication***

A special meeting of the Vestry of the Parish of the Advent was called by the Rector and held on the seventh day of January, *anno Domini nostri Iesu Christi* 2021, via remote communication through Zoom, the Rector presiding.

The following fifteen members of the Vestry were present, fourteen of whom were present at the meeting's commencement, thus constituting a quorum:

The Rev'd Douglas E. Anderson (Rector)  
Mr. C. Thomas Brown (Rector's Warden)  
Mr. Paul J. Roberts (People's Warden)  
Mr. Adam C. Rutledge (Treasurer)  
Mr. Frederick A. Ou (Clerk)  
Miss Lynda J. Blair  
Mr. John M. Boyd  
Miss Amanda W. Daley  
Mr. Thatcher L. Gearhart  
Mr. Dustin E. Henderson  
Dr. David E. Lapin  
Dr. Philip W. Le Quesne  
Mrs. Carolyn P. McDermott  
Dr. Brent D. Nelson  
Mr. Francesco M. Piscitelli

The Rector, after ensuring that all those participating could hear each other and be heard by one another at the same time, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and offered an opening prayer.

### I. ANNUAL MEETING

The Rector's Warden explained that additional rules and regulations had been issued by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts after the Vestry's December 2020 meeting, which

made it unfeasible for the Parish to hold its 2021 Annual Meeting in the Church on January 24, 2021, as originally scheduled, due to the quorum requirement in the Parish's By-laws. Instead, an alternative date for the Annual Meeting of April 11, 2021 was proposed, on which it was expected that either it would be likely that pandemic-related rules and regulations regarding indoor gatherings will have loosened to the necessary extent, or the weather would be reasonable enough that the Annual Meeting could be held outdoors. He explained that the current members of the Vestry would retain their positions thereon until the Parish's 2021 Annual Meeting was actually held, and that specific protocols for the Annual Meeting would be determined closer to the date thereof.

Upon motion, duly made and seconded, the following resolutions were approved by the Vestry:

WHEREAS, at its regular meeting held on Thursday, December 17, 2020, the Vestry adopted a resolution calling an Annual Meeting of the Parish for the Third Sunday after the Epiphany, January 24, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.;

WHEREAS, at the same regular meeting, the Vestry also adopted a resolution providing for the Rector and Wardens to develop specific protocols for conducting the meeting in a manner consistent with all applicable rules and regulations related to the current pandemic;

WHEREAS, after the Vestry's December 2020 regular meeting, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts both issued statements placing further limitations on the size of in-person gatherings;

WHEREAS, the Rector and Wardens have conferred in an attempt to formulate a procedure for the Annual Meeting consistent with the Vestry's resolutions and the updated protocols from the Diocese and the Commonwealth;

WHEREAS, the Rector and Wardens have concluded that, in light of these recent changes, it has become implausible to conduct an in-person annual meeting with the requisite quorum in the Church or any other indoor location reasonably available; and

WHEREAS, a delayed date for the Annual Meeting would permit scheduling the meeting at a time at which either conditions will have

improved such that larger gatherings indoors are permissible, or the weather will permit an outdoor gathering.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

**RESOLVED**, that the resolution of the Vestry adopted on December 17, 2020, calling an Annual Meeting of the Parish for January 24, 2021, is hereby vacated.

**RESOLVED**, that pursuant to Article IV, Section 1, of the Parish's By-laws, the Vestry calls an Annual Meeting of the Parish of the Advent for Low Sunday, April 11, 2021, at 10:00 a.m., to be held in the Church if possible, and if not, to be held at another suitable place; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that no less than fourteen days prior to said Annual Meeting, the Rector and Wardens shall make a final determination of the location thereof and communicate the same to all members of the Vestry, such that the Warrant posted by the Clerk and all related communications to the Parish can state clearly the location of the meeting.

A request was made that the Vestry revisit its prior instructions to the Nominating Committee at the Vestry's March 2021 meeting, which the Rector duly noted. In addition, a request was also made that at some point in the future, the Vestry discuss when during the year the Parish's Annual Meeting should be held on a regular basis moving forward, which the Rector duly noted as well.

## II. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to consider, upon motion, duly made and seconded, the Vestry voted to adjourn the meeting, whereupon the meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

I attest that the above is a true record of the Vestry meeting held on Thursday, January 7, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

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Frederick A. Ou,  
Clerk