

Special Parish Meeting

Parish By-Laws need adjustment to current practices for electing a rector for which the Vestry recommends technical amendments recommended by our Consultant. We therefore call a special Parish Meeting to consider and adopt these amendments, to be held during the time of announcements during the 9:30 am service on Sunday, July 21, 2019.

This document provides the required notice of the Special Parish Meeting to consider the following proposals:

Current provision to elect Rector	Proposed	Commentary
Article 4 – The Rector	Article 4 – The Rector	
<p>Section 4.1: The Rector shall be responsible for all things affecting the spiritual interests of the Church and shall perform the duties of the office under the authority of the Bishop of Pennsylvania, in accordance with the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese and of the Episcopal Church. The Rector shall preside at all congregational and Vestry meetings.</p> <p>Section 4.2: The Rector shall be elected by two-thirds of the Vestry upon written ballot.</p>	No change.	No change
Section 4.3: The candidate(s) shall have been openly nominated at a previous meeting of the Vestry, the notice for which meeting shall have been issued at least one week previous to the holding thereof and shall have stated the nomination(s).	Add the following to Section 4.3: <i>These provisions shall be deemed met once a Committee authorized by the Vestry has vetted Candidates for Rector in collaboration with Diocesan authorities, involved the Vestry by regular reports and opportunity for Vestry members to meet final Candidates, and formally recommended a Candidate for election, at a mutually agreeable time.</i>	Adapts to current Best Practice.
Section 4.4: The Letter of Agreement between the Wardens and the Vestry, and the newly elected Rector shall be entirely in writing and signed by both parties. A copy of such agreement shall be furnished to both the newly elected Rector and the Parish.	Amend last sentence to read: <i>A copy of such agreement shall be furnished to both the newly elected Rector and all current and succeeding Vestry members.</i>	The Vestry is the primary venue for personnel matters.

Current provision to amend By-Laws	Proposed Amendment	Commentary
Article 11 – Amendment of By-Laws	Article 11 – Amendment of By-Laws	
<p>Section 11.1: These by-laws may be amended upon two-thirds favorable vote of the members of the Parish, provided, however, notice of any amendment must be given in writing to the members of the Parish at least two weeks before its presentation at any Annual Meeting or special meeting called for such purpose.</p>	<p>Article 11.1 - Alteration, amendment, or repeal of the by-laws by the Vestry shall be effective upon notice to the Vestry members of a regular Vestry meeting, sent by mail or electronic mail two (2) weeks in advance of the meeting, stating that an alteration, amendment or repeal of the by-laws will be proposed, and the nature of such proposed action. Notice of a voting meeting to act upon such proposal shall be sent to the Vestry members, by mail or electronic mail two (2) weeks in advance of such vote, stating the alteration, amendment or repeal of the by-laws to be acted upon. The alteration, amendment or repeal of the by-laws shall be approved by two-thirds affirmative vote of those Vestry members present and constituting a quorum. Any proper changes to the alteration, amendment, or repeal of the by-laws originally submitted for consideration may be proposed and formally acted upon at the voting meeting without prior notice. Any such approved alteration, amendment or repeal of the by-laws shall be communicated to the Members by electronic communication and notice in the church bulletin for two weeks.</p> <p>Article 11.2 Alteration, amendment or repeal of the by-laws by Vestry action pursuant to Article 11.1 above may be rescinded or altered by vote of a majority of Members of the parish qualified to vote and present at any meeting of the Members. Notice of any such meeting shall be given at a Sunday worship service and be sent by mail or electronic mail two (2) weeks in advance of the meeting and shall set forth the proposed change or summary thereof.</p>	<p>Conform amendment procedure to Diocese of Pennsylvania norm.</p>