

Trinity Episcopal Church
Minutes of the Vestry Meeting
Monday, September 15, 2008

Present: Jonathon Jensen (Rector), Polly Spencer (Senior Warden), Margaret Bearse, Doug Flessing, Leslie Foust, Donna Griffin, Garth Myers, Pam Paden, Debbie Pitts, Marty Smith, Susan Tate, Kent Tomlinson, Matt Lord (Treasurer), Maria Thompson (Clerk), Paul McLain (Intern/Curate)

Absent: Tom McCoy (Junior Warden), Nancy Kelley, Keith Yehle

Guest: Sandra Wiechert

Call to Order and Opening Prayer

The meeting was called to order by Fr. Jonathon at 7:00 p.m. Paul led a prayer to open the meeting.

Declaration of Quorum

A count was taken and a quorum declared.

Approval of the Minutes of the August 2008 Meeting

Margaret made a motion to approve the Minutes of the August meeting. The motion was seconded by Garth and passed by unanimous vote.

Stewardship

Sandra Wiechert discussed the stewardship campaign and the development of a vestry statement that would be part of materials used in the campaign. She thanked the vestry for providing money so she could attend The Episcopal Network for Stewardship (TENS) conference, where some of the ideas for this year's pledge drive were presented. She passed around pledge cards for the members of the vestry to complete as a kick-off to the campaign.

Treasurer's Report

- The outside audit should be finished by the end of September.
- Pledge payments are still behind where we thought they would be at this time.
- We've transferred \$18,000 from the parish money market account to the operating fund in order to meet expenses.
- We have not had to borrow from the operating line of credit.

Margaret made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Donna seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Intern/Curate's Report

- Paul has heard many compliments on Colette Bangert's art show and the reception for its opening night.
- The gathering for newcomers on September 13 went well, with all three services represented.

Rector's Report

- The newcomer's group is looking into getting new name tags.
- Henry Smith has started another choir, made up entirely of men. They will be practicing at the church on Tuesday nights and will sing at a service once a month.
- The services at Brandon Woods are going well.
- The Progressive Dinner will be on October 4. It will start with appetizers and wine at Bishop Seabury Academy.
- Trinity got a small write-up in the September 14 issue of The Living Church.
- The diocesan budget for 2009 will be presented at the Convocation meeting on September 27.
- The acolytes and Choristers will be recognized at the 10:30 service on September 28.
- A couple from St. John's donated money for a new refrigerator for the food pantry.

- We have received three applications for the position of Parish Administrator. Interviews will take place in late September. Once the new person starts, Ruthie will go into semi-retirement, working twelve hours per week for one year.
- The St. Francis Blessing of the Animals will take place on October 5.
- Jim Ralston will conduct a concert on All Soul's Day, November 2.
- The energy audit is done, and the auditor is scheduled to give a report on September 22. Vestry members are invited to attend the presentation.
- The contemplative prayer group has re-formed and will meet in the chapel on Sunday evenings at 5:15.
- Paul McLain's ordination will be on December 6 at 10:30 a.m. in the cathedral.

Senior Warden's Report

- Polly is very pleased with the work that Sandra Wiechert has been doing as Stewardship Chair.
- We need to appoint a new Nominating Committee to develop a slate for vestry elections in January. The committee will consist of the outgoing vestry members (Doug, Pam, Leslie and Keith) and two at-large members of the parish. We should appoint this committee at the October vestry meeting.
- There was some discussion about the size of the vestry and the procedures for choosing wardens. Rules regarding these items are outlined in the by-laws, and if we want to make changes, there would have to be two business meetings, each consisting of a quorum of the parish, at which votes would be held.
- We continue to have some problems with vandalism, though the enclosure of the colonnade has cut down on that somewhat. However, Polly asked that vestry members pay attention to the church property and report any graffiti or damage as soon as possible.

New Business

Marty brought up the idea of the vestry getting together in a retreat at the beginning of each year in order to get to know each other, provide an orientation for new members, and chart a direction for the year. There was also discussion about vestry members being on church committees so they can be seen more by parishioners and possibly bring committee reports to the vestry each month.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. Fr. Jonathon led the prayer to close.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Thompson, Clerk