

Trinity Episcopal Church
Minutes of the Vestry Meeting
Monday, November 16, 2009

Present: Ron Pogue (Interim Pastor), Paul McLain (Curate), Ellen Tracy (Senior Warden), Tom McCoy (Junior Warden), Margaret Bearse, Dave Edington, Mark Holmberg, Nancy Kelley, Garth Myers, Joan Ring, Micah Seybold, Marty Smith, Kent Tomlinson, Maria Thompson (Clerk)

Absent: Donna Griffin, Debbie Pitts, Susan Tate

Guest: Steve Segebrecht

Call to Order and Opening Prayer

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. Fr. Ron led a prayer to open the meeting.

Declaration of Quorum

A count was taken and a quorum declared.

Approval of the Minutes of the October Meeting and the November 8th Strategic Planning Meeting

Kent made a motion to approve the Minutes of the October and November 8th meetings, with amendments to the strategic planning calendar and organization chart. The motion was seconded and passed by unanimous vote.

Grocery Income For Trinity (GIFT) Program

Steve Segebrecht discussed the GIFT program. It has raised approximately \$4,000 in six months. With more of a push from the vestry and clergy, we could possibly raise twice that amount in another six months.

Financial Report

Fr. Ron presented the financial report for the period ending October 31, 2009.

- We need to know if the restricted funds are restricted temporarily or permanently. Margaret and Marty were appointed to research the accounts, and set up files and indicate the status of each one.
- Our year-to-date deficit is \$108,860.49.
 - \$57,000 is the result of unpaid pledges.
 - \$12,000 is money that has yet to be transferred from the education and worship funds into the operating fund.
 - \$36,000 is the deficit that was built into the budget when it was developed.
- We recently paid \$19,404 toward our apportionment, which put us slightly ahead of schedule.
- Henry Smith will meet with the Budget Committee regarding music expenditures.

2010 Budget

- Fr. Ron handed out a draft of the budget for 2010. He asked vestry members to review the draft and send any comments to Tom, Kent, Joan or him.
- He suggested that we establish a separate checking account for pre-paid pledges so that money doesn't mingle with current-year funds.
 - Kent made a motion to set up a separate checking account for pre-paid pledges, with the signers for that account to be the same as those on our current accounts. Nancy seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Interim Pastor's Report

- Fr. Ron is encouraged by parishioners' reception to his ministry and is grateful for the teamwork of Fr. Paul and others.
- Sunday attendance has averaged 247.
- Liz Hare plans to retire at the end of January. We will need to develop a clear position description for her job.

Curate's Report

Peter Doddema is moving into candidate status at seminary. Fr. Paul presented a Letter of Support and Commitment for Peter, which has to be signed by a majority of the vestry, the clerk and a clergyperson to show that we continue to support him as he works toward ordination.

Margaret made a motion to adopt the Letter of Support and Commitment for Peter Doddema. Nancy seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote, and the letter was passed around for signatures.

Senior Warden's Report

- Ellen wrote a thank-you letter to Bob Sanner on behalf of the vestry to express our appreciation for his work as chair of the Stewardship Committee.
- The Chancellor has returned our proposed by-law amendments with some changes. His new wording appears to allow members of the vestry to serve six consecutive years, which is not what we were intending. Ellen will discuss the changes with him.

Treasurer Search

The Treasurer Search Committee has met with two people, and neither has accepted the job. They have some other people to talk to, and will accept suggestions of more names.

Christmas Offering

Family Promise and Habitat for Humanity were discussed as possible organizations to which we might donate a Christmas offering.

Joan made a motion to dedicate the Christmas offering to Family Promise and Habitat for Humanity. Marty seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

We will ask parishioners who are involved with these organizations to help get the word out about the offering and where the money is going.

Junior Warden's Report

- Electrical improvements are underway.
- \$4,700 has been refunded by Westar for overcharges that were found by David Owen earlier this year.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee will be made up of the outgoing vestry members (Margaret, Marty, Nancy and Debbie) and two at-large members of the parish. There was some discussion regarding who might fill the at-large positions; Ellen and Tom will call the people who were suggested to see if they would be willing to serve.

- The committee will develop a slate to be presented at the 2010 Annual Meeting. We will need to elect vestry members and convocation delegates. It would be good to have representatives from all three services on the slate.
- If our new by-laws are approved, we will need to elect five people to the vestry. The senior warden candidate will have to be elected to the vestry, then elected by the vestry to be senior warden.
- Tom will not be running again for junior warden.

Strategic Planning

- There will have to be at least one more strategic planning meeting to finalize the organization chart and the calendar for 2010.
- Vestry members should be thinking about the ministries in which they would like to serve.

Spiritual Reflection

Dave talked about his sister and her poor health. She has lost many of the abilities she once had, and has lost her will to live. Dave has told her that if God wanted her with Him, He would have already taken her. He prays for her daily.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m. Fr. Ron led the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Thompson, Clerk