

Trinity Episcopal Church
Minutes of the Vestry Meeting
Monday, July 17, 2017

Present: Rob Baldwin (Rector), Susan Terry (Assistant Rector), Steve King (Senior Warden), David Severance (Junior Warden), Jennifer Attocknie, Katie Bieker, Nora Clark, Brenda Clary, Andrew Hoyt, Kim Mandel, Allison Marker, Katherine McGillivray, Chuck Olcese, Maria Thompson (Clerk)

Absent: Bill Benso (Treasurer), Heather Eichman

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Declaration of Quorum

A count was taken and a quorum declared.

Approval of the Minutes of the June 2017 Meeting

Kim made a motion to accept the Minutes of the June meeting. Katherine seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Rector's Report

There were three baptisms and one funeral in the past month.

Evening Service

Fr. Rob will continue to talk with the core group of parishioners who attend the 6:00 service. Organist Mark Stotler agrees we need to make changes. Among the ideas being considered:

- Move it into the chapel, which would make it smaller and more intimate.
- Forgo many liturgical elements, probably resulting in a service that is more like Rite 2.
- There is a small organ in the chapel, so music could still be part of the service.
- Not sure about having meals afterward, but Fr. Rob will talk about that with parishioners.

Assistant Rector's Report

The first night of VBS was a great success, with 30 children participating. Over 40 volunteers are helping prepare and run the program.

Senior Warden's Report

Debt Reduction

The account for servicing the debt currently has \$30,000 in it. We will stop asking for money for this in September, before the fall pledge drive begins.

Harvest Festival

The committee is working on plans for the Harvest Festival. It will be held on the evening of September 16th. They are working to get a keynote speaker and a venue, as well as figuring out where children will go during the event.

Pledge Drive

The template for the pledge cards is done, and the cards just need to be printed.

Junior Warden

Break-Ins

The intruders have been caught. They are all teenagers, 14-15 years old. The first person caught identified all the others, and all of them have admitted to doing it, saying that they were mostly after food and wine. They entered the building through the second-floor fire escape, by way of the roof, but there doesn't appear to be any roof damage. The damage to the door has been repaired.

The police have left it up to us to determine how we want the case to be handled. Fr. Rob is considering having a mediator to teach them about empathy and how their actions affected our congregation. Nancy Kelly has drawn up

a plan. All of them will perform community service here. The parents of all of the kids have been supportive of our position and want their kids to make this right.

Brenda suggested asking the District Attorney to offer a pre-filing diversion. It would document what they did and what is expected of them now. As long as they do everything according to the agreement, no charges would be filed. Brenda will join Fr. Rob and David in the meeting with the police to discuss options.

Brenda made a motion to authorize Fr. Rob Baldwin, David Severance and herself to ask the police to hold off on forwarding the case to the district attorney while we attempt to implement the plan, and if no agreement can be reached or the intruders do not follow through as agreed, the case would be turned over to the district attorney for prosecution. Allison seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Animal Intruder

The security camera is now being used to figure out what animal is getting into the sacristy, leaving droppings and possibly making a nest.

Flags and Banners

The Episcopal Church flag that had been inside the church is missing, and a parishioner has agreed to give up to \$300 to replace it. In addition, David wants to buy one for the outside flagpole. It would probably cost around \$50, and he'd pay for it using the Jr. Warden's discretionary fund.

Choir Loft

There is a gap between the stained glass window and the floor of the choir loft. David will look into a way to cover this hole.

DACA Scholarship

Chuck presented an update on the proposed DACA scholarship fund. John Bullock is looking into how we can set it up, and has discussed it with the comptroller at the diocesan office.

- It would be a pass-through fund, rather than an endowment.
- The fund would have its own account, but would be part of Trinity's accounts, and would be managed by a board that would be set up by us.
- The board will distribute the funds and report annually to the Vestry.

Brenda made a motion to authorize the creation of a fund to support DACA scholarships, understanding that this will be a pass-through fund with its own account, managed by a board consisting of three members of Trinity and three members of the Lawrence Interfaith Refugee and Immigrant Ministry, and in accordance with diocesan policy. Chuck seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

The Vestry recommended that all criteria for the fund and its management be put in writing, then presented to the Vestry and the scholarship board for approval.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Thompson, Clerk