

Trinity Episcopal Church

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting

Monday, September 19, 2016

Present: Fr. Rob Baldwin (Rector), Mthr. Susan Terry (Assistant Rector), Terry Mandle (Senior Warden), Jennifer Attocknie, Katie Bieker, Nora Clark, Brenda Clary, Steve King, Dusty McCoy, Chuck Olcese, Mari Russell, David Severance, Bill Benso (Treasurer), Maria Thompson (Clerk)

Absent: Andrew Hoyt (Junior Warden), Glenna Kleinkauf

The meeting was called to order and a quorum declared at 6:35 p.m.

August Minutes

Steve made a motion to accept the Minutes of the August meeting. Brenda seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Rector's Report (in addition to written report)

Large Gift & Debt Reduction

It now appears that the \$50,000 gift that had been offered might not be given. We had hoped this gift would make it possible to continue paying down our debt. Our monthly payment on the loan is around \$4,600/month. We now have \$22,700 in the account because we've had a steadier stream of income recently.

We need to consider other options that could be put into action as soon as possible.

- 1) Rob can call a special meeting of the Endowment Board to discuss our borrowing money from the endowment, then paying it back with funds raised in a capital campaign.
- 2) Talk to parishioners who have given larger donations in the past, explaining that there is an immediate need.
- 3) If we reach the point of running out of money, we will need to look into refinancing the loan.

Steve made a motion to engage the Endowment Board regarding the church borrowing money from the endowment. David seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Capital Campaign

We will have a visioning retreat to develop a list of core issues for which we want to raise money. We can then ask parishioners to rank the issues and give their ideas for how we can accomplish our goals. The retreat will be sometime in November.

Assistant Rector's Report

Sunday School

Numbers have dropped since Sunday School was moved to 9:30, but the new time is starting to catch on. We have three new teachers.

Child Care During Special Events

Mthr. Susan would like the church to develop a policy regarding young children in the church building at night while their parents go off-site. During the Harvest Festival, we had 10 children, aged 18 months to 11 years, in for care while their parents were at the festival. The staff we had that night were able to work well with the small group, but we could not have handled any more children.

Policy options:

- 1) Disallow young children in the building unless their parents are here as well. Whenever there is an adults-only event, everyone will need to understand that they will have to arrange for their own childcare.
- 2) If we plan to provide childcare while parents go off-site, all parents will have to leave a cell phone number and must be prepared to leave the event to come for their children if necessary.
- 3) For all events, children's programming can be planned at the event site, but separately from the adults.

Other Items

- The Blessing of the Animals will be held on October 8.
- Mthr. Susan is still working to put together a team to create children's programming.

Treasurer's Report

Because of a computer problem, we do not have a financial statement available at this time.

All financial obligations are current.

Pledge income, year to date, is 57% of full-year budgeted value. With 67% of the year having elapsed, this is a typical income distribution for Trinity. So far this year we have not had to access any of our financial reserves (small as they may be), which is very encouraging for the Treasurer.

The expense for electricity is particularly high for the month. It is currently not known if this is the result of a double payment due to the calendar, or if we are paying for an exceptionally hot August.

Negative expenses were incurred for contracted musicians for both the 10:30 and 6:00 services. This is due to an accounting change for the cost of the replacement organist during Mark Stotler's absence this summer. The cost of the replacement organist was charged to the Musicians Contracted line last month, which distorted the true meaning of that budget item. That cost has now been properly moved to the Musician Staff Salaries line.

Senior Warden's Report

The Harvest Festival Dinner was a success, with good attendance. A note of thanks will be sent to Ann Elizabeth Bishop for all the work she did.

Pledge drive mailings have gone out.

Barry Molineaux knows the owner of Ingredient, who is willing to donate a percentage of sales to Trinity or the food pantry when Trinity parishioners eat at Ingredient.

Horizons Stewardship Company

The decision to go forward with a capital campaign will hang on the outcome of the feasibility study.

If we're going to pay a large sum for a consultant, then we will need to be committed to doing the hard work that will be required. We will need to have a solid plan in place to ensure that we are very clear on what we want to accomplish and how much money we'll need to raise.

Welcome Brochure

Caroline Howard created a brochure that can be given to newcomers. The vestry likes the brochure, but offered two suggestions:

- 1) Include an inside shot that shows as much of the nave as possible;
- 2) Add our web site.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Thompson
Clerk of the Vestry