

Trinity Episcopal Church

Minutes of the Vestry

March 2, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 by Senior Warden Steve King. A quorum was declared.

Present: Father Rob Baldwin, Steve King, Leslie Foust, Richard Lungstrum, Betsi Anderson, Elizabeth Miller, David Severance, Jennifer Attocknie, John Broholm, William Perkins, Linda McCoy.

Absent: Donna Griffin, Camille Olcese

Brenda Clary and Susan Ralston were also present.

Father Rob conducted devotions: Matthew 25: 31-46. He also mentioned the upcoming classes that will take place during Lent.

The consent agenda was discussed and reviewed. Steve reminded committees of the deadlines for reports and corrections so they can be made before the next meeting.

It was moved and seconded and unanimous approval given to the consent agenda. This included approval of November 2019 and January 2020 minutes, the Rector's report and reports of the Treasure's Report and Finance Committee Report, the Junior Warden's report, the Communications. Education and Greeter committee's reports.

New Business:

Senior Warden Steve King made his report. This included a review of committees and those who are serving on them:

Communications: Camille, John, Bill

Evangelism now renamed Newcomer Shepherding which includes Greeters: Linda, Betsi

Finance: Liz, Bill

Outreach: Steve

Strategic Planning: Liz, Steve, Dave, Richard

Stewardship:

Fundraising: Betsi, Linda, Liz, Leslie

Education: Donna, Bill

There was some discussion about adding a Worship Committee.

Brenda Clary reported on the basement floor. She has been working with Krings and a plan to address the blisters on the floor. Payment is being withheld until satisfaction is achieved. There is a pattern of blisters on the floor as well as residue and gaps in the flooring. It is hoped that repair will fix these rather than complete replacement. The Vestry thanked Brenda for her continued work with Krings to bring this project to completion.

Susan Ralston spoke to the music program and issues concerning it. A new model is being discussed that will include a 12 month organist and a 9 month choir director. Paid section leaders will be finished at the end of March. Susan expressed concern and advocated for the paid section leaders and what they add to the choir. She further stated that some may lose interest in serving if the paid section leaders are not there. Steve stated that there isn't money in the budget to continue funding them. Due to a flat pledge campaign the extra 10 percent that would fund this is not there and the church must operate in the black. Father Rob added miscommunication has added to the confusion surrounding paid section leaders. Some believe that the choir should be volunteer and that others believe paid section leaders added to worship and elevate it. The Vestry is working to resolve this. Susan asked if paid section leaders could be paid by a single individual. Father Rob noted that special consideration could be given for feast days and contributions could be taken to ensure a rich musical program for Easter. Steve mentioned that the Vestry should meet with the choir and that this was a commitment made last fall during budget discussions. Betsi suggested this could happen after choir practice. The choir director will be asked for a date for this meeting to occur. The date of March 12 was suggested with as many from the Vestry attending as possible. The Vestry thanked Susan for coming and speaking to this issue.

Betsi spoke to a new program called Invite/Welcome/Connect available to greeters. There is a structure in place it just needs content. She said there is a book that may be purchased and a seminar is held at Sewanee. The date of the seminar is not known yet. The Communications Committee will look into this.

There was discussion concerning the Active Shooter presentation. Should it be provided to the congregation? Should the No Firearms signs be removed? Father Rob said the Bishop supports the previous administration's policy on no firearms. This had full support of the Vestry. Father Rob said he had the contacts if the Vestry wished to continue to look into presenting the Active Shooter program to the parish.

Bishop Cathleen Bascom has sent information concerning the Coronavirus. This includes encouraging symptomatic persons to abstain from Communion and that diligence at the altar concerning the cleaning of hands should occur. Intention is strongly discouraged and passing of the peace alternatives should be considered during this time. Linda expressed concern about food and its preparation. Betsi told about proper handwashing technique. It was decided that best practices should be followed at this point in time and education and reinforcement of the Bishop's message. Morning Prayer instead of the Eucharist was suggested. Father Rob said the Prayer Book says the Eucharist is primary but the best course of action must be taken for public safety. He said solutions may be forthcoming as the situation develops.

The reserve was discussed. Various scenarios and numbers were discussed. Further discussion will occur next month and will be finalized.

There was brief discussion about a survey that could be conducted concerning the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to Trinity.

The Vestry voted to approve a 2020 Sabbatical for Fr. Rob.

The Vestry went into executive session at 8:45. They came out of executive session at 9:00 and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Patterson

Clerk of the Vestry