

Vestry Meeting Minutes  
May 23, 2016

In Attendance: Barb Swanson, Darlene Cross, Becky Lucas, Fr. John Dwyer, Mary Pendergrass, Elizabeth Grayden, Chris Lacher, Jeff Jensen, Harold Danley, Jan Fillmore, Mike Sirany, Ann DePaolis-Jones

Not in Attendance: Kathy Ackerman,

Reading: Episcopal Journey Blog Entry, By Matthew Jennings White.

Volunteer for Pulse of the Parish: Jan Fillmore

Approval of April 18 Minutes: Harold moved to accept the April minutes with one spelling correction. Darlene seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

Additions to the Agenda: Discussion about endorsing Move to Amend bill.

Financial Report: Father John reported that the current month actual is just shy of \$3000 in the red for the month. We are \$12,000 in the black for the year. He reminded us that there was a surplus of \$11,000 last year which is not reflected in the financials. So we are actually \$23,000 in the black. We are currently at 33% of the year and we have been catching up on pledges. Building use has lowest income due to lack of kitchen rental. There have been no responses to the Craig's List ad or flyers yet. There are no red flags on the financials, so we are doing well overall. Finance team didn't meet because they were involved with the audit this month.

Ongoing Business

Funeral Luncheons: There was a discussion about when and how we will present the change in funeral luncheons to the parish. It was decided that having an open meeting after the 9:30 service in June would be best so we can hear parishioners' responses before actually making any changes. We will present it as a vestry consideration and are looking for feedback from the parish. We will also present the research done so far about options and potential costs. We need to change the expectation that there will always be a luncheon with a funeral. Michael suggested sending something out in written form before the meeting to give folks time to reflect before they need to give an opinion. We need to listen openly to ideas of the congregation. Becky suggested having a celebration of the team that has been doing the funeral luncheons. It was decided that written communications would go out in the eTraveler and Christogram before it is presented to the parish on June 26<sup>th</sup>.

Green Team LED Bulb Fundraiser: The wardens have not heard anything about this from the Green Team and it did not appear to be discussed at their recent meeting. Mary will follow up on what a fund raiser might look like. Updating to LED bulbs would help us reduce our energy costs.

Goals and Dreams updates:

Communications team had a kick off meeting on Sunday that was attended by seven people, including Mike and Kathy. Folks stepped forward to take on specific tasks and someone volunteered to take on a leadership role. There is a company that produces high quality videos

for specific parishes that will be explored as it could be posted social media to increase our visibility.

Welcome team also met. It was decided that they will keep things simple to start.

1. Decided to have a two gatherings a year after church, one in October and one in May, and invite new or prospective members. Wardens, vestry members and rector would be encouraged to attend to give information and answer questions.
2. Becky suggested giving new members a May Day basket once annually to all who were new in the year. The youth could participate in this activity.
3. Discussed offering rides to those who need rides to church. The team will start a list of people willing to give rides. Elizabeth suggested looking at insurance liability. Father John will check with our insurance to see if it's a concern.
4. Fr. John currently sends out a letter to new members. The team thought it would also be nice to send a personal welcome note from a parishioner. They will write the notes.
5. Once the website is up, we will create a tri-fold with information from the site to hand out.

Bishop's Visit July 10th: There will be a blessing of Fr. John and Ben's wedding. The Bishop doesn't have a lot of time to spend after the service but there will be a reception with Costco cake and cookies, champagne, sparkling water and coffee. Darlene will head up the reception.

#### New Business

Carpet Cleaning Estimates: Mike, Harold and Fr. John got the following estimates:

1. Summit Interior Care (\$550) They use a Green method with less waste water, and eco-friendly products. There are no reviews on Angie's List.
2. Ultimate Carpet and Upholstery (\$940) They were recommended by Hammernicks and had excellent recommendations on Angie's List. They use EPA approved products.
3. Stanley Steamer (\$449) Reviews were not impressive.

There was discussion about the first two options. The vestry recommends that we have a budget line each year for carpet cleaning. It's been four years since the carpet was installed and it hasn't yet been cleaned. Father John recommends Ultimate even though it is \$390 more than Summit which had no independent reviews. Mike agreed based on their meetings with the vendors. Harold made a motion that we used Ultimate Carpet and Upholstery and that we schedule the cleaning as soon as possible. Jan seconded the motion. There was discussion about using Summit, the greener option vs. Ultimate since we are a green congregation. An option was suggested that that we used the more expensive, tried and true option this year as the carpet hasn't been cleaned, then next year try the greener option. The motion was approved unanimously.

Summer Service Hours: We are now in the summer hours with one 9:30 service. Fr. John asked the vestry to be alert to any concerns about this time of service. Bring feedback back to vestry meeting.

Financial Audit Results: St. John in the Wilderness did our financial audit this month and we passed with flying colors. No issues of concern came up on audit. Ruth and finance team are doing a great job. Our team then went to St. John's to do their audit.

Move to Amend bill Endorsement: Becky brought up the issue of corporate overreach and becoming a more democratic society. Move to Amend has an amendment to the US constitution. Becky is asking St. Christopher's to endorse the Move to Amend bill. Several other churches are becoming endorsing organizations. As a parish, we can endorse an issue, but cannot endorse a candidate. The leader of Move to Amend, David Cobb, will be in MN in June. Becky will follow up to see if he would attend an informational forum at St. Christopher's. This would be a great way to educate the parish on the issue which is a non-partisan issue. The vestry members did not make a decision but will think about it and revisit at the next vestry meeting. Becky will email a list of events and other information about the issue to vestry members.

#### Shout Outs

Those who volunteered at the clean-up/work day last week

The Staff at St. Christopher's for a wonderful program year just ended

#### Rector and Warden Comments

#### Member Comments and Concerns

#### Compline