

St Christopher's Episcopal Church
February 16, 2019 Vestry Minutes

Members present: Fr. Daniel Pearson, Joel Norton, Lisa Spiro, Kathy Ackerman, Al Reedstrom, Josh Kattelman, Barb Hovey, Chris Huntley, Erin Bowman, Karen Hartman, Tom Linder
Not Present: Mark Brilowski

New members received their notebooks and explanation of it.

Corrections: Huntley ey –spelling, Warkentien ie –spelling. A motion was made by Tom and seconded by Al to accept minutes as corrected. The motion carried.

Financials: In looking at page 4 of report, we see that the January income total \$71,000+ reflects pre-paid pledges. These get prorated throughout the year. Looking at Expenses on page 4: It may seem that (the approximate) \$30,500 expense seems high, but it has the quarterly insurance payment that is also prorated out for the quarter. We are in the black. We have \$44,290 in prepaid pledges. It is helpful to look at the Summary: “Statement of Activities” page.

A motion was made by Karen, and seconded by Lisa to accept this report.

Previously we were not caught up on our money due to ECMN. Percentages were added onto donations over \$10,000 to help cover this cost and some other costs. There were three at 5% 2% and 5% for different reasons. We are now caught up with ECMN. The Finance Committee suggested that this formula be changed.

A motion was made by Tom and seconded by Karen to reallocate this 5% of the 12.5% on all bequests over \$10,000 to the technology and landscaping funds. This is from the MMS fund. (MMS: Mission & Ministry Support) The motion carried.

In looking at a specific Bequest: The Aldridge Bequest of \$10,000 (per above paragraph), There is now \$8750 which will be distributed as follows: \$1250 to Webb/Dwyer special music fund, \$1500 to Youth Group for upcoming Summer trip west and \$6000 will transfer to Capital Campaign. This is recommended by the Finance committee. A motion was made by Barb and seconded by Al to approve this request. The motion Carried.

Parochial Report: This report is completed annually by parishes. It has Membership Information of the parish (p.2) It also has Other information including the Financial information of the parish. This was handed out and discussed. A motion was made by Tom and seconded by Karen to approve this report: The motion carried.

Library Request: All requests over \$500 go to vestry: Finance suggests we spend \$1350 from Cap Hanson fund for furniture, paint, and window treatment. There was discussion about the library use and future use. A motion was made by Karen and seconded by Lisa to approve this Library Renewal request. The Motion Carried.

Solar Panel update: The new part of the System is up there and ready to go—wiring needs to be connected to get up and running. This is on the flat roof section on the west side of the building.

Capital Campaign: This group met last Tuesday and had a good meeting. They will meet every 2 weeks and are working with the consultant. They have a time line written out from February through

June 2019. There will be preparation, education and recruitment with outreach to people. There is (or will be) a Logo on a banner and can be used on letterhead. Joel talked about what they have to deal with and will update the vestry every month.

Pulse of the parish: In the past, 2 people would give a synopsis of what the vestry has been doing. One at each service. This was suggested by Tim Hodapp to keep communication between vestry and parish during our last interim. Now, we could look at different formats. This could be in written form such as a flier in the bulletin, or we can continue as we do. This is a high-level synopsis of the most previous vestry discussion and shows the parish human point people on the vestry. Vestry people could have a Sticker on their nametags or something else attached. It was suggested to have a vestry person stand up announce the written piece—the flier in the bulletin. It was decided to attach a ribbon on each vestry members name badge. Erin will do ribbons. It was also decided to do the written Pulse of Parish rather than a verbal presentation.

A motion was made by Kathy and seconded by Tom to have an Executive Session of the vestry. The motion carried. There was then private discussion. A motion was made by Kathy and seconded by Tom to adjourn this session. The motion carried.

Fr. Daniel gave a Review of Vestries by drawing 3 circles showing: Church is Institution, Communion of Holy Spirit, Missional Enterprise. Typically the Vestry is in the institution circle. Vestries feel church is a burden. In the second circle, there would be Prayer, Discernment, personal conversation, reflection; the Spirit gives us direction. Janet is our personification of Mission, the third circle. These circles all should overlap. We looked at our Vision Statement of who we are which was done by the discernment team. Copies were handed out. The Mission is outside of the church walls. Fr. Daniel then passed around a Handout of part of Janet's Feb 3rd sermon. She quoted Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry. A page from the Vestry Resource Guide handed out: Chapter II p.7 "The Ministry of the Vestry is..." and p.25-26 "Understanding Yourself As A Spiritual Being." This is about discernment. We (as a vestry) have a measure of Faith when we make decisions. We need to trust one another and come from prayerfulness.

Kathy talked about the Church at the ECMN level and specifically at our Mission Area levels. This is how our churches in Minnesota are divided geographically. We are in the East Metro Mission area. (These were previously called, "Regions.") There is an annual gathering of these areas. Kathy will be part of the planning of this gathering—East Metro. Next Saturday: There is a Lay Leadership Seminar which is at the ECMN level.

Finally, there was talk about the morning session. People noted it was good, helpful, they were excited, have a better understanding, it was interesting, it is good to meet new folks, they appreciate the skill we bring in, are hopeful, see we are heading toward growth, time goes quickly while on the vestry, and are pleased to meet folks.

The Vestry gathering and meeting ended with a brief Noon Day Prayer.

A motion was made by Tom and seconded by all to adjourn. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Triebenbach
Clerk of the Vestry