

April 15, 2019 Vestry Meeting
St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

Members present: Lisa Spiro, Karen Hartman, Barb Hovey, Erin Bowman, Al Reedstrom, Josh Kattelman, Kathy Ackerman, Joel Norton, Fr. Randy Johnson, Mark Brilowski, Tom Linder
Absent: Chris Huntley

The meeting began with a reading by Fr. Randy.

Corrections to the March 2019 Vestry meeting minutes:

It was \$2150.00 that was recommended by the finance committee to be approved by the vestry for the Youth Summer trip being led by Chad O'Leary. Ebie Richards was asked to donate from the Jim Richards memorial money to pay for the needed new steel door at the northwest corner of the building. On page 2 of the minutes, the motion made by Tom and seconded by Karen was to appoint Suzanne Hitchcock as our new treasurer. It was approved. Suzanne and Bruce Warkentien will be doing the audit together. In the finance Expenses section, we are at 14% versus an anticipated 16%.

A motion was made by Kathy and seconded by Erin to accept the amended March 2019 minutes. The motion carried.

Scott Crow came to inform the vestry of the plans for getting the capitol campaign started with the parish. On May 5th, parishioners will distribute materials to people at their homes, and will pick up the materials/response on May 11th. There will be a training on this on April 30th. The parish will be updated at that time explaining that we already have a generous lead gift and are about 1/3 of the way to the goal. Other gifts are being solicited from leadership in our parish.

Financials: Currently the income is at 29.32% of the year which is above where we expect it to be for this time of the year. We are at 21.82% of the expenses for the year. Facilities costs were a little high due to heating costs in February. Karen asked where are we at with Chinese Daycare? We have no new information from them. Larry is paying his reduced rent and is no longer using the nursery.

A motion was made by Karen and seconded by Lisa to accept financial report. The motion carried.

[Note: corrections to this financial section were discussed at the May meeting on the percentages noted. Please see the financial report for accurate information on year to date percentages. April is 1/3 of the way through the year which would be about 33% of the year so 29% and 21% would be decent percentages for this month.]

Old Business:

Clergy Housing Allowance: Fr. Randy is changing his from \$20,000 to \$27,000. A motion was made by Kathy and seconded by Mike to approve this. The motion carried.

Golf Outing: Bill Hanna is organizing this, and it will be on June 23rd. Golfing will be from 2:00-4:00 pm and there will be a happy hour from 4:00-6:00 pm. More tickets will be sold for this. They were previously sold at the Silent Auction. More information on who is selling tickets will come from Bill.

Steel Door update: After a request was made to Ebie Richards, she thought about it and decided that yes we can use funds from Jim's memorial funds. It will be a green door again. It is suggested that a plaque with his name be put on the door. A motion was made by Tom and seconded by Erin to put up a brass plate. Motion carried. There are questions about the cement slab and stability by this door. It wouldn't affect the door.

The lights over the altar and some in chapel are not working. Our electrician has been less than responsive. It is suggested that we have Ruth (or we) find a new electrician. It could be an electrical issue or bulb issue.

There is a request for reimbursement for the Children's Ministry's dedicated fund. On our finance sheet, on line 941, it shows this fund at \$4800.00. It was at \$17,000 at one time. In about 2012, it was decided that fund was to be spent down for operation costs of children's ministries. Marion has tried to keep track of it. We are now funding Children's Ministries out of the general fund. She is asking for \$1482.00 as a reimbursement to the dedicated fund coming from \$9000.00 cushion fund. A motion was made by Tom and seconded by Erin to put the money back. The motion carried.

New Vestry Retreat: There will be a follow up Vestry retreat in May or June now that we have Fr. Randy here. It will not include a business portion. It will be a relaxed good time with food. There will be brainstorming on how we will move forward. How about June 8th in the morning for this from 9:00 to 12:00 noon? There was a consensus that this will work. Please bring forward any thoughts you have on this. It is a group decision making process. Listen to all the people for ideas.

A new parish directory is out with last name issues for some women. It is catholic software—each family has a man as head of household and a woman in the house who has taken his last name. We should have had a warning that this was being updated. Tom would like to see a separate entry for people with their own name. Maybe Ruth could have a different software or someone could set up an excel spreadsheet for this. Tom can do this (or others). It appears to be more problematic this year than it has been in past years.

Shout outs: There is a request from Ebie to recognize the 10:30 coffee people. Also for Bruce Warkentin who filled in a lot and everyone who signed up for and did the shoveling this winter.

Our children's area in the church is getting quite full. There were comments about the chevron arrangement of the chairs, and do we keep it or change it back? There is a need for a row or two more in the children's area. More on this later.

Rector comments: Thanks for allowing me a honeymoon period. It's like looking at a new born baby—the feeling. He also noted how so many children came forward to help bless the palms yesterday.

Sr Warden comments: Scott was here about Capital Campaign. We need volunteers to go out on the 5th and pick up again the 12th of May. If you feel called to do this, let us know.

Chris Bowman will go over our St. Christopher's bi-laws.

The East Metro Mission Area meeting was well attended with over 100 people; 65 were expected. Bishop Prior will be on sabbatical starting in October.

Vestry comments: Some flowers are here, [Correction: Some of the Easter flowers were already at church, while other flowers had not yet been shipped out of Chicago for Easter.] but they haven't come out of Chicago yet..... (for Easter).

There was Compline using the Book of Common Prayer.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Triebenbach, Clerk of the Vestry