

St Christopher's Episcopal Church Vestry Minutes of October 15, 2018

Members Present: Fr. Daniel Pearson, Joel Norton, Cindy Lee, Michael Sirany, Lisa Spiro, Jan Fillmore, Mark Brilowski

Members Absent: Becky Lucas, Karen Hartman, Chris Huntley, Barb Hovey, Tom Linder

Volunteers for Pulse of Parish: Vestry report on Sunday will be done by Michael at 8:00 and Mark at 10:30.

Corrections/Additions to the September 2018 minutes under: New business: PIF is the correct spelling; it is short for Pooled Investment Fund. Under organizational update: Connie Hendricks is the contact person.

Motion Made and Seconded by Jan and Joel to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion Carried.

The Financial Report is generally good. Over \$7009 has come in this month. The income exceeds the expenses quite a bit. We are at 75 % of the year.

About the sewer project: \$2486 was moved from dedicated accounts to the PIF—sewer fund reimbursement.

Offerings as a whole are at 74.2% received. We have not dipped into previous years' surplus which will roll over to next month. Building use is as expected mostly. The State Fair Parking income did well. The budget was \$2500, and \$4725 was received.

Salaries and administrative expenses are as expected. Prepaid pledges are budgeted at \$0, but are counted in how well we are doing.

Transition/search/website Update: We are at the point where we have posted the position. We have an updated website with the materials that are needed. Hopefully we are getting off on the right foot. Michael reported: The search team is in the process of sitting down and putting together questions for the candidates. Each rated priorities the top characteristics. The committee was in agreement on those. They went through the parish and ministry profile with the characteristics moving to the development of questions. Karen Olson (of the ECMN office) likes to deliver a packet of names in person meeting with the team or they could send a link to the drop box for the committee. The names will come all at once—the week of November 5th. We are a desirable Parish with a good website.

Solar update: Joel hasn't heard back from Glen yet. We need the information as to what they are proposing as to the physical layout and expenses. This needs to be approved by the vestry after we have their information. With his previous information, the numbers were not adding up. They're adding more solar panels is to be revenue neutral to us. What we are paying in energy costs is not what it should be. They may not be able to add enough panels to match what we should be paying. For the rebate, it is limited to a 40 kw system. They cannot go over that and still qualify for the reimbursement of the panels. They need to respond to the issues and account for their original inaccuracies that were in their proposal.

They don't want to admit their mistakes; we are not unreasonable. They have been evasive for many months and that is a big concern. We need the panels up on the roof. Is there some remuneration that we should receive due to the shortfall we have experienced? How do we assess their proposal if they don't give us the expected production? The solar benefits should exceed our costs. Will their solution be adequate? They need to give us the number of panels and the expected output which may not be adequate.

Related to this: We have been looking at paying off the solar loan balance as one component of our capital campaign. This should be done by December 31st, but it would really need to be paid off by Nov 15th. We should endorse the payoff of the balance by November 15 of about \$88,000 from the gift we have received in order to save an additional year of interest. We would save \$24,000 in interest. A motion was made and seconded by Jan and Michael to pay this off. Finance needs to be aware of this. Motion approved.

Organizational update: Same as last month. There is a need for someone to take over the Thursday dinners.

Silent Auction: There is a fund-raising request: The Fall Dinner and Talent Table are endorsed by the finance committee. The proceeds will go into mission opportunities fund. A motion was made and seconded by Lisa and Joel that this is where the money will go. Motion carried.

The church received a letter from Roseville Cedarholm Golf Course offering a round of golf and use of their community room in their new building for 80 people. This was because we allowed their construction people to use our parking lot. There was discussion about having this in the Silent Auction or separately from the Silent Auction. Perhaps this could be rolled out in March or April.

2019 Capital Campaign and Stewardship Drive: A stewardship letter will go out with our Generosity Theme. Scott Crow and Daniel did a presentation on this, and the discussion went well. Conversations about money are difficult and people started sharing their thoughts about giving to the church. The consultants (who are helping us look at a Capital Campaign) are planning on sending a letter and a questionnaire that will go out next week after the stewardship letter.

Mission Opportunities Grant request: A note from Karla was received in which she requested \$800.00 to purchase a new digital piano for the choir room. Her note explained why this is needed. This request has been recommended by the Finance Committee to the Vestry. A motion was made and seconded by Jan and Mark to approve this request. The motion carried.

Building maintenance: Mark has compiled a list of things that were to be done by a sexton. Mark can show people how to do these tasks. Ruth (in the office) has this list on an Excel sheet. Some of these tasks can be "vendored" and most can be done in house. Mark, Ruth and Don Shiek need to meet to look at what needs to be done and what others can do to help. It was suggested to have a completed check list with dates that would show when tasks were completed. Have the dates/list right next to the item and have a sign off box.

Shout outs: There was flooding in the church; Don S. and Michael S. vacuumed the area with water on Friday and Saturday after the Thursday flooding. The Giving Garden area can be fixed so that there is no leaking from there. It is suspected that perhaps the drain tile system was overwhelmed. It is not exactly clear as to where and why the water came into the building.

Rector Comments: The Adult Forum is shifting to political realities for the next 3 weeks and Fr. Grant Abbot is coming. Then Rolf Lowenberg Deboer is coming to preach and do a forum.

The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.
Respectfully submitted,
Sue Triebenbach, Clerk of the Vestry