

Vestry Meeting Minutes
December 19, 2017

In Attendance: Jeff Jensen, Cindy Lee, Jan Fillmore, Darlene Cross, Mike Sirany, Chris Huntley, Elizabeth Grayden, Mark Brilowski, Karen Hartman, Barb Swanson, Becky Lucas, Fr. Daniel Pearson, Ann DePaolis-Jones

Not in Attendance:

Opening meditation was led by Mike

Volunteer for Pulse of the Parish: December 31, Cindy at 8:00 and Becky at 10:30

Approval of November 20 Minutes: Darlene made a motion that the minutes be approved as written. Cindy seconded the motion and the November minutes were approved.

Additions to the Agenda:

- Mission Opportunities Grant
- Unauthorized adjustment of thermostats
- Approval of rector's housing allowance
- Parishioner concerns about the red cross

Financial Report: Cindy reported that we are at 91.66% of the year. Overall income is at 88.04% which is slightly below the target, but by adding in the prepaid pledges it brings us close to target. Expenses are at 85.42%. We are \$4643 in the black for the month. Prepaid pledges in the amount of \$7240 have already come in for next year. There was a surplus from 2015 of \$4600. We have not needed to draw on this amount yet. Building use is on track at 94%. The PIF balance was \$383,000 at the end of November before making the sewer payment. This payment will reduce the PIF to \$226,000 taking into account donations of \$11,800 that have already been received. We anticipate that we will receive additional donations for the sewer project that will go into the PIF in 2018.

Ongoing Business

Team Reports – Short term goals – There are no updates from the teams this month.

Sewer line repair

Increasing volunteers

Church growth – Mike has been inviting others to come to church and encourages others to do the same.

Facilities revenue

Planned giving

Discovery/Search Committee Update and Next Steps: Jeff reported that the selection process has been completed. There were 12 applications received for the search committee and 3 applications for the discovery committee. 2 applications were received that did not express a

preference for a team. The rector and wardens reviewed the applications and made their selections. Jeff made a motion that we approve the selection of Bill Hanna, Barb Hermann, Jennifer Wright, Darlene Cross, and Allison Jenson as the discovery committee, and the selection of Bruce Warkentien, Ann DePaolis-Jones, Elizabeth Grayden, Suzanne Hitchcock, Mike Sirany, Christopher Bowman and Ella Snyder as the search committee. Mark seconded the motion. Following a brief discussion, the motion was approved. Jeff then made a motion that the senior and junior wardens, in consultation with the interim rector, be allowed to make changes to these committees based on people's ability to serve without further vestry approval. The vestry will be fully informed of any changes to people serving on either committee. Darlene seconded the motion. There was a brief discussion and the motion was approved. The wardens will send letters to those chosen to inform them that they were selected.

Nave Chair Configuration: There was a discussion about the current chair configuration in the nave. It was agreed that the open area for the kids is working very well. It gives them an opportunity to see what's going on in the service and it allows them to be more engaged. Some people aren't happy with the kneelers not lining up with the chairs. Fr. Daniel offered his perspective. We will make a decision on this issue next month. There will be a note in the bulletin that encourages people to express their opinions about the chair configuration to a vestry member.

Dinner/Raffle/Auction Review: We are still waiting for final numbers on revenue from the dinner, raffle and auction. Wardens will share final numbers when they hear them.

New Business

2018 Budget Update and Next Steps: We have a draft of the budget for 2018, but it is still a work in progress. There are still some pledges outstanding. We will review and approve the final budget at the next vestry meeting on January 15. The proposed budget draft was reviewed and discussed.

Approval of Housing Allowance: Fr. Daniel Pearson submitted a resolution designating a portion of the rector's salary as Housing Allowance. Jeff made a motion that we pass the resolution submitted by Fr. Daniel. Cindy seconded the motion and the motion was approved. The resolution was signed by the clerk of the vestry, Ann DePaolis-Jones.

Mission Opportunities Grant: The community dinner team submitted a mission opportunities grant for the in house feeding ministry. They requested \$650 to cover part of the November dinner and all of the December community dinner. Finance has already approved the grant. Jeff made a motion that we approve this mission opportunities grant. Jan seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Thermostat Concern: There was a concern that some people adjust the thermostats for their own comfort, causing the temperature to rise during the service and become uncomfortably warm for others. Darlene suggested we add a locked box on the thermostats to prevent people from changing the temperature that is already preprogramed. Mark has the lock boxes so will add them to both thermostats.

Concern about the Cross. Becky reported that a parishioner expressed a concern about the current red cross that is being used. The parishioner would like the vestry to consider bringing back the old brass cross. A discussion ensued. The brass cross is heavy at the top so was harder for the kids to carry and the red cross is more manageable to carry. There is a significant history in the Episcopal Church that supports having a cross with a similar image. The red cross was donated to the church, so someone could donate another cross. Michael explained the concerns of some parishioners that he has heard. Fr. Daniel will look at the cross and bring some thoughts to the next meeting. We will discuss further at the next meeting.

Shoutouts:

Those who worked on the talent table in December

Deacon Janet for all time and energy she has given and continues to give to St. Christopher's

Everyone who worked to make Lessons and Carols and the reception afterward such a wonderful event.

Rector and Warden Comments

Member Comments and Concerns

Closing Prayer

Submitted by Ann DePaolis-Jones