

Minutes of Special Vestry Meeting
July 30, 2015
Christ Episcopal Church
Woodbury, Minnesota

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm by Senior Warden Dan Shoemaker.

Present: Senior Warden Dan Shoemaker; Junior Warden Catherine Harrington; Treasurer David Waletzko; elected vestry members Jenny Burke, Jane Pederson, Randy Pastorius, Matt Stiles, and James Elam

Absent: Elected vestry members Laura Niederhofer, Sue Vold, Mary Lee Isely, Nancy Thompson and Clerk Michelle Rebholz

Rector Search Committee Update: Dan indicated the committee was in place and the goal was to get members together as soon as possible. Search Committee kick off meeting is, therefore, scheduled for this Sunday, August 5, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. Members of the committee include:

- Janeen Leick
- Shannon Erickson
- Catherine Jacobson
- Randy Pastorius
- Diana Waletzko
- Mark Freiberg
- Kristen Wilson
- Denny Davis
- Joe Thompson

Committee's initial activities include selecting a chair person and defining meeting structure. The committee will be asked to keep vestry informed of their progress.

An announcement of this committee to the Parish, will be made, with blessings, in both services. Dan indicated Dave Leick said he would be happy to meet with the team on the MAP process.

The vestry is asking the Search Committee to target having a new rector in place by January.

To keep the parish up to date, we plan a Search Committee announcement each Sunday, along with regular announcements, either by Search Committee or vestry member.

MAP Committee Wrap-Up: MAP group is getting together one final time. Team plans to meet within a couple of weeks and wrap up by the first of September.

New Transition Development: Dana was asked to enter meeting where she read a letter of resignation, indicating she has accepted a position with Nativity Episcopal Church in Burnsville. We discussed possible end dates for her role at Christ Church. Concerns were getting Sunday school started efficiently and transitioning youth ministry activities, an upcoming wedding and other "unknown" duties. Dana will be on vacation in August. The vestry and Dana agreed on October 4th as her last day. The vestry feels that this is a tremendous opportunity for Dana and are very supportive of her decision.

Some solutions for coverage and whether we should look for permanent or part time replacement for Dana, were discussed. We agreed to re-evaluate program and address along with appointment of new priest.

Action Item - Dan will clarify process for formally accepting her resignation and communicating to the parish.

Dana indicated that she felt it was customary for the vestry to write a letter accepting her resignation, explaining our plan to move forward. Both Dana's letter and vestry letters should be read at the end of service, then sent first class mail to all members of the parish and /or via parish email.

Action item – Announcements will be made this Sunday, August 2, at both services.

Action item – Dana will connect with wedding party on Saturday, August 1

Dana has asked the bishop to handle upcoming confirmation

Action item – Dan will schedule a meeting with Dana to discuss all aspects of her transition

Transitional Priest Update: Diocese does not have another applicant at this time. A motion was made by Matt and seconded by Jane to proceed with hiring of Reverend Thomas Gehlsen in the transitional priest role. After discussion about financial options and whether we can / should make this part-time versus full time, the motion was approved.

Action item – Randy will contact vestry members not attendance to advise them.

Action item – Dan will talk with Karen at Diocese about our options

Rev. Gehlsen will asked to start as soon as options are clarified.

Chris Update: We discussed cost and method of providing health insurance for Chris. A motion was made by Matt and seconded by Jenny to provide health insurance coverage for Chris.

Action item – Dan will communicate vestry's decision to Chris.

Budget Update: David led vestry through discussion of;

- Modeling available funds for transitional priest
- Ernie and Dana Effects on 2016 Budget
- New Priest Cost Estimates by tenure category
- Treasurer's Report as of July 2015 for General Fund

Adjournment: Dan adjourned the meeting at 8:43 pm.

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