

Christ Church Vestry Meeting minutes

February 15, 2016

Present: Sr. Warden Catherine Harrington, Jr Warden James Elam, Treasurer David Waletzko, Mike Johnson, Teresa Shaw, Jane Pederson, Laura Niederhofer, Louis Egwim, Nancy Thompson, Wayne Jarvis, Jenny Burke, Vestry Clerk Philip Vander Haar

Absent: Matt Stiles

Called to order at 7:00 PM

Opening Prayer - Catherine Harrington

Approval of January Vestry minutes -

Corrections to the "Other Business" section were requested. With these corrections a motion was made by Laura Niederhofer to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Teresa Shaw and approved unanimously. A revised copy will be published for review next month

Approval of Annual Meeting minutes -

The meetings from the annual meeting were reviewed. Approval moved by Teresa Shaw and seconded by Nancy Thompson and approved unanimously.

Appointment of new clerk -

Catherine Harrington explained that the current clerk Christine Seaton resigned. Phil Vander Haar has volunteered to serve as the clerk. Motion to appoint Phil Vander Haar as the Vestry Clerk was made by Mike Johnson and seconded by Nancy Thompson and approved by the Vestry.

Financial Report -

The Treasurer David Waletzko led the review of the financial report. Explained the structure of the balance sheet for the benefit of new vestry members. The Vestry reviewed the Income & Expense Statement. The reports were received by Vestry

Sr. Warden's Report -

Anna's first day will be the 24th or 25th of April. Debbie has agreed to stay on as supply priest until Rev. Anna can start.

Catherine made copies of the by-laws for each vestry member so that they have them available to reference.

Jr. Warden's Report -

Vestry Resource Day - Catherine Harrington, Mike Johnson, Teresa Shaw and James Elam went to a full day session that the Diocese had for Vestries. The morning was a presentation on how to be a "mission focused Vestry". In the afternoon there were breakouts on different topics. James found it a good overview of the vestry role. One suggestion made was for a Vestry retreat. The general discussion was that this would make sense to consider after our new priest starts. They recommended a vestry resource guide that is available on Nook and Kindle as well as hard copy. The book is "Vestry Resource Guide" ISBN 978-0-88028-424-0, Revised Edition 2015, Published by Forward Movement. James also pointed out that there were additional resources on the "The Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church in Minnesota" at <http://episcopalmn.org/lay-resources>.

Other Business -

Consent agenda - Catherine Harrington explained that the use of a "consent agenda" was intended to replace committee reports. Committees were to send in a report that was available for review. However, reports were generally limited to Buildings & Grounds and Faith Formation. Catherine's preference is to reinstate the idea of having a vestry liaison on each committee. This will be discussed later in the meeting. The only report received this month was from Faith Formation.

Parochial Report - This is the annual report that the parish provides to the diocese. James Elam pulled together the numbers related to attendance, the number of services, and other related data. In the past this data was provided by the rector. The Vestry is required to sign the a form. Although the form is still being worked on the Vestry approved it in its draft form. The motion to sign the form was moved by Laura Niederhofer and seconded by Nancy Thompson. Motion was carried.

Christian Cupboard - Greig Metzger has asked that the open plate from one of the Sunday's in March be allocated to the Christian cupboard. Vestry discussed this and approved setting aside the open plat from the 6th of March. Moved by Teresa Shaw, Seconded by Louis Egwim. Carried

New Organ presentation - Blane Huppert presented an update on the proposal for purchasing a new organ. At the Annual Meeting a proposal was made to buy a used organ at a discount (approx \$40,000). However, that organ is no longer available. The revised proposal is for a new Rodgers 589 organ. This is the most basic model that we can be connected to our organ pipes. The proposal is to go ahead in three stages:

1a) Buy the organ - \$52,000 retail with a discount that brings it to \$38,600. With removal and disposal of the current organ it comes to \$41,400.

1b) Move the organ to the front of the church. Remove the first pew to make room for the organ.

2) Clean the pipes - They have not been cleaned in approximately 10 years. The cost for this is \$10,000. Additionally build the custom interface and the electronics to connect the pipes - approximately another \$14,000.

3) Open up the balcony - \$20,000

On behalf of the organ committee Blane asked for approval of phase 1 of the plan. The following motion was made: "The Vestry will authorize the formation of a capital campaign for the replacement of the organ with a target of \$85,000. This includes the approval of the reconfiguration of the front of the church to make space for the organ." Motion made by Mike Johnson and seconded by Laura Niederhofer. Approved unanimously by the Vestry.

Security of church during the transition - Rev. Debbie Brown does not want to be responsible for closing the church. We need to come up with a schedule for vestry members who can be sure that the church is locked up. Laura Niederhofer will put a schedule of available members with keys.

Memorial funds - Pierre LePere would like to form a memorial committee. They would review proposals prior to their being presented to the Vestry. This committee should have a minimum of three members. A motion was made to approve the formation of a memorial committee. Moved by Laura Niederhofer, seconded by Mike Johnson. Motion carried.

Restructuring the Vestry - Catherine Harrington discussed the restructuring of how the Vestry oversees parish committees. She had comments on a few particular committees.
Outreach - We have lots of outreach, but has been hard to oversee as a committee.
Hospitality - This used to be called in-reach. There is a lot of duplication of effort and a lot of things done without anyone asking. There is no overall view of budget needs.

The following committee liaison assignments were agreed to:

Communication - Laura Niederhofer and Wayne Jarvis

Faith Formation - Matt Stiles

Pastoral Care - Nancy Thompson

Finance & Legal- David Waletzko

New Organ - James Elam

Building & Grounds - James Elam

Memorial Committee - Pierre LePere (Jenny Burke will liaison)

ECMN Mission Opportunity - Louis Egwim

Welcoming Committee - Mike Johnson

Outreach - Nancy Thompson

Hospitality - Catherine Harrington will approach Jane Pederson

Other updates -

Mike discussed the replacement of the sign for Christ Church that is on Valley Creek.

Matt Kuhn volunteered to do several dinners over the course of the year.

Closing Prayer