

Minutes of Regular Vestry Meeting
Monday, April 20, 2015
Christ Episcopal Church
Woodbury, Minnesota

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Ernie.

Present: Rector Ernie Ashcroft, Senior Warden Dan Shoemaker, Junior Warden Catherine Harrington, Clerk Michelle Rebholz, Treasurer David Waletzko; elected vestry members Nancy Thompson, Laura Niederhofer, Matt Stiles, Jenny Burke, James Elam, Jane Pederson, Sue Vold, Mary Lee Isely

Absent: Randy Pastorius

Prayer and study: Ernie led with a prayer written by Sir Francis Drake.

Approval of the agenda: Matt moved that the agenda be approved; motion seconded and carried.

Approval of vestry minutes: Laura moved to approve the minutes; motion seconded and carried.

March Financial Statements: David stated that the Murder Mystery funds raised are in the EYC account. Previously, there was a Camp Fund with leftover money from a camp in Wisconsin that was sold. The Camp Fund has been combined with the EUC fund; \$5,700 is the actual amount in the fund. The Building Fund is down, due to projects. The Memorial Fund now has two previous funerals. The General Fund has a \$4500 balance.

On the Treasurer's Report, David stated that the pledge goal was \$286,000; to date, there have been \$281,000 in pledges. These are excellent results. The Miscellaneous Expenses are much larger than expected due to the insurance reimbursement for the carpet. David will be getting those recorded in the correct accounts.

Assistant Priest Job Description/Letter of Agreement: Job descriptions would not normally be discussed at a vestry meeting. However, Dan and Catherine's second meeting with the Bishop will be later this month, and during their initial meeting the Bishop requested that they need to work out the responsibilities Dana will have in the parish after she is priested. Cindi will also become a transitional deacon at the same time Dana becomes a priest. It is our understanding that Cindi will stay on for another year. The vestry's position is that in light of these two events, there should be minimal duties for a transitional priest. A letter of agreement also needs to be worked out for Chris. There were questions about the process of appointing a transitional priest. Ernie responded that the Bishop offers a name; the vestry can turn it down, but can only say no twice. A transitional priest's job is to keep things moving and working at the parish, not to introduce significant changes. The vestry was concerned that we make sure the transitional priest is willing to take that approach.

Report on MAP Meeting: Matt reported that the first few meetings have been foundational, to ensure everyone knows each other. The most recent meeting focused on the strengths of the individuals on the group and the strengths of Christ Church. The next meeting is on May 18.

Vestry Retreat Discussion: The vestry has had difficulty in finding a date for a retreat. It was agreed that the next two vestry meetings could be shorter and then 1 hour after each meeting would be devoted to the retreat. The focus will be on how the vestry members should handle issues during times of transition. The next vestry meeting is Tuesday, May 19.

Report From Rector's Round Table: --

Consent Agenda: The consent agenda was accepted. Mary Lee will find out the cost difference between paper and styrofoam cups and compile an environmental comparison. Other vestry members may be able to assist her with this project.

Junior Warden's Report: Catherine mentioned that she and Dan have a May 5th meeting with the Bishop.

Senior Warden's Report: Dan reported that he and Catherine met with Dana to discuss her responsibilities. They also met with the nursery staff. If possible, nursery staff would like to receive communion.

Rector's Report: Ernie stated that all vestry members must have SafeChurch training every five years. Those who need it will contact Dana. The special services coming up are:

- Sunday, June 21: one service at 9:30 with a special reception afterward. This is the day after Dana's ordination (which is at 1pm Saturday, June 20).
- Sunday, June 28: Cindi will preach; she will be ordained as a transitional deacon on Saturday, June 20.
- Sunday, July 26: one service at 9:30. This will be Ernie's last service.

Recap of Decisions Made, Tasks Assigned, and Items Tabled:

- Ernie will invite David Leick to the next Vestry meeting;
- Mary Lee will research and provide some information on cups for coffee hour;
- Vestry members should note that next month's meeting is Tuesday, May 19;
- Michelle will send out the prayer read at the opening of the vestry meeting.

Adjournment:

Ernie closed the meeting with a prayer at 8:20 pm.

Committee Reports

Pastoral Care Committee (Mary Lee Isely)

--

Faith Formation (Matt Stiles)

--

Building and Grounds (Laura Niederhofler)

1. The lawn mowing teams have been set up and are starting their rotations.
2. The Eagle Scout landscaping project on the east hill where the utilities enter the building has been completed.
3. We had an outside grounds cleanup.

Here is something to share with the Vestry:

Last year there was supposed to be a Kitchen Committee to be set up.

There was a meeting or two, but nothing came of it. Recently St. Marys Guild went through the refrigerator in the kitchen and threw out about 90 percent of old, outdated and unmarked foods. Everything left in the frig is supposed to be labeled with the person's name, and the date. In fact, there are labels in a pocket holder on the door of the frig. But no one seems to use them.

The Building and Grounds Committee does not feel that it should be responsible for policing the kitchen, although it is responsible for maintaining the equipment. Someone needs to form an active Kitchen Committee to see that it is properly maintained, and it will not happen unless it becomes a Vestry priority. If an inspector ever came by, our kitchen could be shut down if it has a refrigerator full of expired food.

Small Group Ministries (Sue Vold)

Nothing to report.

Communications (?)

Welcoming Committee (?)

--

Stewardship Committee (Randy Pastorius)

--

Report on Summer Celebrations (Catherine Harrington)

Thanks to everyone who was at our meeting last night (Wed, May 13). I think we have a good start on the celebrations of this summer.

For Dana's party on June 21 Sandy Huppert will be taking the lead and forming a committee to make this party happen. She will also be in touch with Dana to be sure we have an event that will be what she would like.

For Ernie's party on July 24 Dave and Janeen Leick will be taking the lead and forming a committee with this one.

Also Queen Obasi has graciously volunteered to lead the charge with some African food and celebration for both Dana and Ernie's parties.

For Cindi's coffee hour between services on June 28 Dana will be taking the lead on this one.

Caryl Davis mentioned that St. Mary's Guild will be happy to help out with this one.

Denny Davis has volunteered to look into renting tent and tables, etc to bring Ernie's party outside to the new patio.

If those of you who could not make it to the meeting have not heard from one of these groups in the very near future - please feel free to give one of them a call to volunteer.

We will be having another meeting on May 26, 2015 7:00 pm.

Hopefully St. Mary's Guild can also handle a special cake and coffee after Ernie's last service on July 26.

Thanks everyone! - Christ Church is such an amazing group of people who can always be counted on to come through!