

Vestry Meeting Minutes
04/12/10

Attendance:

Voting – Ruth Beard (Junior Warden), Laura Buel (Assistant Treasurer), Paul Harrington (Senior Warden), Dick Herrmann, Angela Simpson, Ed Skea, Bob Uerz, Dick Mansfield

Non-Voting – Leslie Black (Diocesan Companion), Ann Grady (Interim Pastor)

Opening Prayer: Led by Laura

General Business:

Minutes – Adopted minutes from last meeting. **(See Resolutions)** Reviewed Action Items from last meeting. Diane will be followed up with **(ACTION ITEM!)** at a later date regarding putting the Vestry meetings into the bulletin.

Interim Pastor's Report – Ann reported that Holy Week went OK this year. She “went with the flow” this year, and has some ideas for next year. She has met with Diane Holland and Brian Webb to discuss the nuts and bolts of the worship format, and they agreed to keep in touch with each other regularly. Ann indicated **(ACTION ITEM!)** that she would try to get a resolution together for the next meeting regarding the % of clergy salary to be designated as housing allowance.

Ministry Discernment Committee (MDC) – Three initial decisions faced the Vestry at this stage of the process, namely how many members should be on the committee, what are the timelines and resources for the group, and how many candidates (for Rector) would the Vestry need from the committee.

Size of the MDC – After discussion, it was agreed that there should be two members of the Vestry on the committee, one of which would be a co-chair of the MDC. (The other co-chair would be elected by the MDC once it was convened.) Paul raised up Bob to the group as one of the two Vestry representatives, and the designated co-chair, and then opened nominations to the floor. After discussion, Laura agreed to be the second representative. Since Diane was not present, it was agreed that the resolution would be binding only after input from Diane. After discussion it was agreed that the total number of the MDC should be 9, as this would be large enough to represent a relatively accurate cross section of the Congregation, but not so large as to be unwieldy in its deliberations, and also allow for some attrition without severe detriment to the progress of the group. The Vestry representatives to the MDC were so chosen. **(See Resolutions)**

Resources and Timeline – Since the resources would mostly hit the 2011 budget, this was not discussed in detail. It was agreed that the MDC will be responsible for determining the timeline.

Number of Candidates – This was defined as how many candidates the Vestry wants to receive from the MDC. This was opened for general discussion. As there are many different ministry models to be explored by the MDC that may not be the traditional Rector search model, including partnerships with other Parishes, Priest-in-Partnership, Covenant Group/Local Ministry Support Team, etc., after deliberation it was agreed that this would be left for further discussion later, after the joint MDC/Vestry meeting, or further into the MDC's process as needed.

Review of Candidates – The Vestry entered and exited Executive Session to discuss the candidates for the MDC. **(See Resolutions)** The slate of candidates for the MDC was adopted **(See Resolutions)**, with agreement that the members would remain anonymous until Paul **(ACTION ITEM!)** contacts all candidates. Once the slate is announced, a letter will go into the next Chronicle and into the Bulletin, and be announced at services.

Properties – The group had been tasked with reviewing the recent building assessment. There was some discussion about what to do next, but no specific resolution was reached. It was determined that in order to move forward we need two things. The first is firm estimates from contractors for the “high priority” work, and Ruth **(ACTION ITEM!)** was empowered to begin that search. The second is financial statements/documents, so that we have an idea of where we currently stand and what resources might be available.

Ruth had a conversation with Gloria about her current responsibilities, and developed a potential job description for the position, which was distributed to the group for review. It was suggested that it might be preferable for some of the scheduled hours be opposite the office staff hours to allow a thorough cleaning of the space and minimal disruption of the workflow.

There was some discussion about the Vestry’s responsibility to generate revenue from the facilities, and that there may be additional custodial tasks that are required above and beyond what is being done now to allow for more functional use of the space. The issue of obtaining deposits from families to cover custodial tasks was briefly discussed, and it was agreed that it is not unreasonable to expect this from those using the facility. No specific resolution was reached on this issue, but it is closely tied to the ongoing Sacred Spaces program, so is therefore “in progress”.

Vendor Spaces – Ida Lange and Bonnie Kynoch have informally run the program of renting out space in the courtyard, and Ida had indicated to Ruth that she was hoping to expand the rented space. The Vestry agreed that a more formal application process must be established, and competitive/comparable rates set. Paul and Ruth **(ACTION ITEM!)** agreed to meet regarding this issue. Ruth indicated that Rilla Murray was involved somehow with a Montpelier organization/group that had something to do with the permitting of the space, so more info will be forthcoming.

Communications – Dick H briefly went over a list of articles for the Chronicle, and some ideas for upcoming articles. He stressed that any input from the group is welcome. Bob agreed **(ACTION ITEM!)** to write an article for the next issue emphasizing the next steps in the MDC process, and that Paul’s letter would list the individuals on the MDC if they had been notified by that time. It was also agreed that some language in the next issue would invite parishioners to participate and contribute articles as they saw fit. Christian Education was mentioned as a topic for an upcoming issue, with information from Elizabeth Wilcox.

Resolutions:

A motion was proposed and adopted to accept the minutes from the 3/22 meeting.

A motion was proposed and adopted, naming Bob Uerz and Laura Buel as the Vestry representatives to the MDC, pending additional input from Diane.

A motion was proposed and adopted indicating that the MDC shall be 9 members including Vestry representatives.

A motion was proposed and adopted stating that the MDC should have co-chairs, one of which is one of the Vestry representatives and is chosen by the Vestry, with the other co-chair designated by the MDC after it is convened.

A motion was proposed and adopted naming Bob Uerz as the Vestry co-chair of the MDC.

A motion was proposed and adopted to enter and exit Executive Session to discuss MDC candidates, including all in attendance, voting and non-voting attendees.

A motion was proposed and adopted to accept the slate of candidates for the MDC.

Closing Prayer:

Next Meeting May 10th