

Vestry Meeting Minutes
07/12/10

Attendance:

Voting – Ruth Beard (Junior Warden), Laura Buel (Assistant Treasurer, MDC member), Paul Harrington (Senior Warden), Angela Simpson, Ed Skea, Bob Uerz (MDC co-chair), Dick Mansfield, Diane Holland, Dave Simpson (Clerk)

Non-Voting –Ann Grady (Interim Pastor), John Jaworski, Sarah Baker (Treasurer), Ida Lange (Hospitality, Stewardship Chair)

Opening Prayer: Led by Ruth

General Business:

Minutes – Adopted minutes from last meeting (**See Resolutions**) Reviewed Action Items from last meeting.

Interim Pastor's Report – Ann indicated she is currently working with a local family in preparation for a Baptism, which will likely be 7/25 if all proceeds according to plan.

There has recently been some turnover in those who serve on the altar, and she has approached two people to see if they are interested in becoming LEMs. We have currently been just using one LEM/SD through the summer, which Ann finds easier to manage on the altar, and this may continue through the winter.

There was some discussion about Pew Cards, where we would put them, what would be on them, etc. Ann agreed (**ACTION ITEM!**) to make the first pass on a basic card that we could use as we explore different concepts/strategies. Ruth also brought up the idea of having crayons/activities for kids to do during the service, and agreed (**ACTION ITEM!**) to bring some in to have available.

After speaking with the Chancellor of the Diocese, Ann confirmed that other organizations cannot use Christ Church's 501c3 status unless Christ Church has organizational control over it. MAIC is in the loop with decision, and is currently applying for it's own nonprofit status.

MDC – Bob reports that the MDC met 6/30, and Maggie Thompson was elected as the non-Vestry co-chair. This first meeting was primarily organizational, as the group begins to discover and discern its own ground rules. They will plan to meet every couple of weeks. Bob already released their first communiqué, which was published on the Blog recently, and indicated his goal is to keep communications short. Paul reiterated the three tasks charged to the Vestry as part of the process, and asked that in financial matters especially (budget for search, compensation package), the MDC give the Vestry ample notice so that they have ample time to gather the information they need. Bob indicated that while this is early in the process and he is mindful of the desire for tangible progress, this process will move at its own pace. He agreed (**ACTION ITEM!**) to be the person responsible for giving the Vestry ample notice when its participation will be needed.

Financial – John Jaworski accepted (**See Resolutions**) the position of Assistant Treasurer.

Sarah distributed an income and expense statement showing April-June, which the group reviewed. Sarah agreed (**ACTION ITEM!**) to add a column showing where we are compared to what we budgeted. She would enter this data manually for now, as there was not a way to do it quickly/simply with Powerchurch. Sarah and John agreed (**ACTION ITEM!**) to prepare monthly balance sheet for Vestry meetings.

Diocesan Assessment – We are currently paid up through April of this year (general applause), leaving we are currently 4 months behind, which at the annual meeting was set as our goal by the end of this year. This puts us ahead of schedule, and means that we were able to make 11 payments this year.

Regarding fuel oil purchase, this is about the time of year when we needed to decide whether to go market price or do a capped price.

It was reiterated that the cost of the Preservation Unlimited assessment and the Chimney repairs are to come out of the Diocesan funds, not the General Fund, and Sarah agreed (**ACTION ITEM!**) to reimburse the General Fund for these expenditures and to make sure that our building expenses did not exceed the amount we withdrew from the unit funds.

Dick brought up the idea, for future discussion, that we might reconsider the deposit of the proceeds of the Rectory sale into Diocesan investments given the large number of repairs needed on the building.

It was agreed that the Finance committee would soon begin meeting to develop the budget. These meetings traditionally occur the week prior to the Vestry meetings. It was noted that some input would be needed from the MDC regarding potential expenses.

Regarding switching from Powerchurch to Quickbooks or something similar, it was agreed that such a shift should not occur in the middle of the financial year because we would have to input the first 6 months of data. It was agreed that John and Sarah would work together to evaluate the current system, and we would re-evaluate towards the end of the year.

Properties – Dick volunteered (**ACTION ITEM!**) to the Diocese regarding the status of the \$7500 McClure Grant.

Ruth shared a list of recently completed projects, including the chimney cap, basement toilet re-anchored, and installation of smoke detectors. The group recognized several other recently completed projects, and Ruth for her excellent work on the numerous building projects. Regarding the basement toilets, there was some discussion as to whether these could/should be locked unless there are specific events that would require their use. There was no specific action on this item, but it was agreed that this would be part of the upcoming discussion/development of policy around building use.

Ruth also listed several projects that are upcoming, chief among them the front doors. We are not able to use them currently because of cracks in the casings that are causing them to drag on the floor. Jamie (stonemason/historical preservation guy) is in contact with some historical preservation type carpenters to look at what can be done. Additionally there are mold issues in the basement, especially the women's bathroom, and an exhaust fan is being considered for that space to help control the moisture issue.

One ongoing project is the development of a maintenance manual, and Ruth brought a copy of one that we may adapt for our use.

Volunteers for Peace, some projects that they may do while here are to clean the women's bathroom downstairs possibly using a bleach solution to clean some of the mold, to move all the "treasures" in the

undercroft over to the bulkhead side of the building so that we can just rent a dumpster and begin the great purge, and sanding of the upstairs bathroom baseboards.

Auditorium – In the continued effort to make this a useful revenue generating rehearsal space, it was resolved (**See Resolutions**) that Paul would contact Linda Hogan regarding removing the jewelry studio from the stage in the auditorium. Clean up efforts are ongoing in the Auditorium dealing with the discharge from the Attic, and it was indicated that another group cleaning effort would be taking place in August.

Communications – No specific update, the plan remains for an August issue.

Other business – Ida reports that food that is designated for the Full Ladle is disappearing from the kitchen. She indicated that she will be introducing labeling.

Regarding building use, Ida requests that something be done about the parking, where apparently non-church members are regularly using those spots designated for Christ Church. Another item to consider is the use of the “Free” table by the doors in the corner of the Parish Hall, and whether we want that to continue, and what should be on it.

Regarding the stuff in the Auditorium, Ida indicated that she is willing to go through the stuff and mark those items which she feels she may be able to sell during the Saturday Courtyard sales, then the Vestry/Properties Group can go through those items which she labeled, and decide if they can indeed be sold, or need to remain property of the church and be stored/used.

Regarding the Stewardship Committee, she indicated that she is stepping down from the Chair position effecting immediately, so a new chair will need to be found in the near future to begin preparations for the Stewardship Campaign. As part of this, it was suggested that we somehow try to get a more accurate number of our members “in good standing”. It was mentioned that in the past, this was part of the Stewardship Committee’s role, and was done via an “Every Member Canvas”.

Agenda items for next meeting –

Resolutions:

A motion was proposed and adopted to accept the minutes from the 6/8 and 6/19 meetings.

A motion was proposed and adopted that the Senior Warden would contact Linda Hogan and request that she remove the jewelry making apparatus by September 1st.

A motion was proposed and adopted naming John Jaworski as Assistant Treasurer.

Closing Prayer: Led by Paul

Next Meeting August 9th at Paul’s house, meeting for dinner at 6:15. Directions will be sent prior to the next meeting.