

Vestry Meeting Minutes

11/30/09

Attendance:

Voting – Sara Baker, Ruth Beard, Sarah Blair, David Blythe (Senior Warden), Laura Buel (Junior Warden), Diane Holland, Angela Simpson, Ed Skea

Non-Voting – Dave Simpson (Secretary), Maggie Thompson, Tim Heney

Opening Prayer: Led by Sara Baker

General Business:

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

Vestry – Naomi Flanders' resignation from the Vestry was recognized, and it was consequently verified that we will be seeking to fill four vacancies at the annual meeting. One will be a one-year term to complete the term vacated by Naomi's resignation, and three will be for full three-year terms. Some potential candidates were discussed.

Funeral Services – In light of the passing on of two members of the Parish, what role the Vestry plays in such proceedings was discussed. It was determined that the Vestry plays little, if any role, and the Altar Guild, the Supply Clergy, the Family, and the Office have arrangements in hand.

Interim – David B has received a list of six names from the Diocese. Based on prior emails from Susan and Thad, it was determined that the next step is to form a subcommittee to generate a cover letter and make initial contact with the candidates. The committee volunteers are Sarah Blair, Sara Baker, Laura Buel, and Maggie Thompson. Sarah Blair agreed (ACTION ITEM!) to contact Thad to get the ball rolling, and the subcommittee will meet separate from the Vestry to proceed.

Christmas – We reviewed the updates from Sr. Laurian.

Service Times - The time of the Christmas Eve services was discussed, as there were proposals from various sources on possible alternatives to the tradition of 5:00 and 11:00, but in the end it was decided that we would stick with those times. (See Resolutions) Laura agreed (ACTION ITEM!) to contact Sr. Laurian after the meeting to update her on this decision.

Lessons and Carols – The question arose as to whether we wanted to take donations at this service, and after discussion, we agreed that we would have an unlabeled collection plate at the front of the Church, which we would “seed” with a few dollars. Laurian's updates indicate that Ida had been contacted about supplying food for a reception after the event, and the choir members present indicated that traditionally the food is provided by the choir. Dave S agreed (ACTION ITEM!) to contact Ida and let her know about this.

Shoveling – Ruth agreed to be the lead shoveler, with the idea that a team of volunteers would be established. The snowblower had been located in the undercroft, and was brought up to its winter residence beside the vestibule. The details were not all hammered out in this meeting, but it was agreed that Laura (ACTION ITEM!) would contact Sr. Laurian and let her know that the Vestry would take care

of it for throughout the Christmas/Advent season. There was some discussion about hiring someone, possibly the person who does the snowplowing, or possibly through court diversion, and that Dot would probably be the person to contact regarding the latter.

Front Doors – It was agreed that the front doors would remain in use through Advent/Christmas, and would be closed the first Sunday in January. The Properties Group would take care of sealing off the front area with a volunteer work day.

Rectory – Tim Heney, the agent who the Rectory is listed with, came to the meeting to present three offers he has received on the property. The first was from a local developer looking to purchase it as an investment property with no financing contingency for \$160,000, the second and third were people looking to live in the home, both pre-approved for financing with offers of \$180,000 and \$175,000, although the third of these offers also contains a clause that states that the offer shall equal \$2000 more than any other offer on the table up to \$182,000, so the last offer is essentially for this amount.

We proceeded to refine the details of our listing, ensuring first and foremost that the “Diocesan contingency” (that this listing is contingent on approval from the standing committee of the Diocese) is included, but also that the property is “as-is”. David B agreed (ACTION ITEM!) to contact the appraiser about the report of the appraisal, which is the last outstanding item on the list of things we need to present to the Standing Committee. The goal is to have the proposal to the Standing Committee for their December meeting.

Tim brought up that David Hall had worked out a verbal agreement with the current neighbors about sharing use of the driveway, so that would need to somehow be addressed, as the neighbor currently uses the driveway, but the new owners of the property may not be so inclined. David B agreed (ACTION ITEM!) to do a title search on the property to try to establish the ownership of the driveway.

After review and discussion, it was resolved (See Resolutions) that we would accept the third offer of \$182,000, contingent on the decision of the Standing Committee, and release copies of the building inspection and estimates to all potential buyers.

Financial:

Diocesan Assessment – The assessment amounts had been published in the Mountain Echo, and Laura indicated that there was an asterisk next to some Churches, including ours, indicating that the Parochial Report had not been filed in time, and that amount may be subject to change. The amount of the assessment went up noticeably, and there was concern about the ramifications this might have, as our recent coming to terms with our budget relating to the Interim had resulted in decreasing the position from full-time to ¾ time. Based on this, it was resolved (See Resolutions) that we would make contact with the Diocese and request that the 2010 assessment be reconsidered, and capped at no greater than 2009 levels. Dave S agreed (ACTION ITEM!) to contact Sarah Baker to let her know this decision and facilitate writing the communiqué.

Executive Session:

The Vestry went into executive session to discuss personnel.

Resolutions:

A motion was proposed and adopted to accept the minutes from the 11/16/09 meeting.

A motion was proposed and adopted that the Christmas Eve services would be at 5:00 and 11:00.

A motion was proposed and adopted to accept the offer of \$182,000 for the Rectory, contingent that the property be clearly listed as-is, not broom-clean, and pending Diocesan approval of the sale, and that both the Property Inspection and the consequent repair estimates be released to the potential buyers.

A motion was proposed and adopted that we would contact the Diocese and ask that the amount of our Diocesan assessment be reconsidered and capped at no greater than the 2009 level.

A motion was proposed and adopted to enter executive session to discuss personnel issues. A subsequent motion was proposed and adopted following the discussion to exit executive session.

Next Meeting 12/14 at 7:00