

MINUTES
Vestry, Christ Episcopal Church, Montpelier, Vermont
January 18, 2016 – 6:30 p.m.
Choir Room

ATTENDANCE:

Voting: Virginia Catone, Senior Warden; Denise Womer, Bruce Story, Secretary; Helen Bryan, Corrie Wilcox, John (JJ) Jaworski, Steve Dale, Rilla Murray, Kate McCann

Non-Voting: Paul Habersang, Shawn Bryan, Ted Long, Deborah Jerard, Liz Slayton

Opening prayer led by Paul Habersang

1. Introductions

Nominated Vestry members were introduced: Ted Long, Liz Slayton, Josh Fitzhugh (not able to attend)

2. Open invitation – parishioners (Deborah Jerard – Sudan Communion)

Deborah communicated the potential for individuals from the St. John’s Church in Akobo, South Sudan, to visit the U.S.

Steve moved that we support the effort of the Sudan Communion to host this visit. Rilla, Deborah and Martha Holden will develop an appropriate support letter.

Kate seconded this motion.

The Vestry approved.

3. Approval of December 21 minutes

Motion to approve by Bruce

Helen seconded the motion

Vestry approved

Thanks extended to Rilla for being the acting secretary for the December 21 meeting.

4. Financial matters

a. Update on NW corner and crane accident expenses and deficits (Shawn Bryan)

We are about \$51,000 short for the whole project. Need \$14,000 to cover the current cash flow of the project. We did have to dip deeply into rainy day funds and now have very little reserve funds. Additional known deferred maintenance remains to be completed. Shawn will present this information at the Parish meeting on January 24. Ginny expressed her’s and the Vestry’s appreciation to Shawn for his close management of this project including the NW corner repair and the repair to the sanctuary after the crane collapse.

b. December 2015 financial report (J. J.)

JJ reported that the church’s budget ended the year well balanced with some expenses up which was covered by income from increased building use.

Bruce moved that we accept the finance report for December.

Kate seconded the motion.

Vestry approved

c. 2016 budget (J.J., Helen)

The 2016 budget was presented and after some discussion the Vestry thanked the Finance Committee for making the hard decisions to develop a thoughtful budget. It will be presented to the Parish Meeting and then voted on afterwards by the Vestry.

d. Short-range subcommittee update (Ginny, Paul)

Subcommittee recommends: **The current meditation room shall be leased as soon as possible, with the understanding that there may be costs for modest refurbishment of the space; and that a portion of the lower level conference room and possibly the choir room will be set up for the same uses currently appropriate to the meditation room.**

This motion was made by Kate

Seconded by Steve

The Vestry approved

e. Long-range subcommittee update (Steve)

The subcommittee has met 3 times. They are researching various ideas of additional expanded uses of the church facilities. The subcommittee will report to the Vestry in March.

5. Youth and Family ministry report (Denise)

Highlights:

1. Youth and Family Calendar completed.
2. Church "Class Room" Parish Hall.
3. Weekly Children's Worship Bulletins.
4. Additional BOB items were donated to Another Way and St. Mary's Living Closet.
5. About 20 books from the drive were added to the pews.
6. Youth finished a scroll to present to the congregation on Sunday, Are you Ready to Grow?
7. Mardi Gras Luncheon, Sunday February 7th immediately following the 10: 00 AM Service. Working with Hospitality Ministry and Kathy Meninger.
8. Lent theme: What does it mean to be a Christian in today's world?
9. Community Easter Sunday Dinner
10. Stamp out Hunger Food Drive, April- May. Will be working with Bill Beard and the Food Shelve.
11. Earth Stewardship after Lent

Our youth and Family Ministry continues to grow. The average youth attendance is 10 and over the past few months we have added 3 new families. Please help make these families feel at home. Families are really happy with the Children's Worship Area and the new class area.

6. Priest-in-Partnership report (Paul)

See Paul's report.

Highlights include:

Overall Christmas attendance was up 35% (205 in 2014 to 278 in 2015)!

All Christ Church historical documents have been stored in the vault at diocesan house (fulfills one audit recommendation).

All three administrative offices have been painted thanks to our Administrator, Dierdre Allen.

Paul continues to participate in the tradition of offering devotions/prayers for leadership at the State House during the legislative session.

The Annual Report is being compiled for the Parish Meeting to be held on January 24, 2016.

7. Other business and future agenda items

a. Senior Warden remarks (Ginny)

Susan Howland \$2800 fund dispersed 3 ways:

Another Way Community Center, Montpelier - \$900

Good Samaritan homeless shelter, Barre - \$900

Vermont Interfaith Action - \$1000

b. Annual Parish Meeting – Sunday, January 24, 2016 – format, agenda, setup, Vestry participants

c. Vestry 2016 organizational meeting January 24 following Annual Meeting

(1) Election of officers (Senior and Junior Wardens, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Recording Treasurer, Secretary)

(2) Approval of 2016 budget

(3) 2016 meeting schedule

Closing prayer

Adjournment – 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Story, Secretary