

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd

Vestry Meeting

with Members of the Search Committee

April 19, 2017

Present: Charlie Ohl, Jo Meachem, Bev Barry, Carol Burns, Joe Spina, Julia Mount, Pat Lalonde, Katie Thomas, Jennifer Coleman, Susan Woods, Marji Torrell, Julie Spina (substituting for clerk of the vestry).

Excused: Zoe Kosten, Patty Mertens, Debbie Wiesner, Kathy Boone (clerk of the vestry).

Meeting opened with prayer at 6:35 p.m. Joe moved, Carol seconded, and March minutes were approved unanimously. Joe moved, Marji seconded, and the meeting agenda was approved unanimously.

Discussion of Merger Opportunity with Ascension . . .

As noted in the minutes from March, 2017, this possibility has been discussed by the vestries of both congregations. These discussions have been productive and it is now time to explore the opportunity with the congregations at large.

There was a detailed conversation concerning the joint congregation meeting planned for April 30, following the 9:30am joint service between Good Shepherd and Ascension. (sufficient food and beverages will be made available by Bev Barry, & the Spinass.)

Susan Woods suggested a simple model for collaboration: inviting folks to get something to eat and drink expeditiously, then to take seats at the provided tables, in groups of 6-8; pens, paper, hand-outs, flip chart, markers, will all be available for use, and each group will need a note-taker. Target time for meeting to start: 11:15am. (Susan, Jennifer, and Carol will craft hand-outs based on previous discussions joint meetings with Ascension.)

Charlie has spoken with Dennis and Mark, encouraging attendance at the service and meeting.

Please see the working agenda for further information about the meeting.

Katie will make an announcement Sunday, April 23rd at the 8:30 service, and Jo will do so at the 10:30 service.

An additional note: both grand pianos have been moved – exchanging their former placement.

Regarding the next steps in search process, Vicki Zust is working on the language and format toward the possibility of a merger, and there is a model for management of same at the Diocesan Center.

Strawberry Festival

The decision was made to hold the festival on June 24th this year, from 3 until 6pm; so moved by Joe and seconded by Katie. Discussion ensued regarding the need for personal conversation and encouragement to fill all serving, etc, positions by three weeks before the event. Traditionally this festival has been designed as a gift for the Parkside community, providing an enjoyable family-friendly afternoon of activities, picnic fare and local strawberry treats. Katie has agreed to be the 'entertainment chair' and it is hoped that Debbie W. will coordinate the basket raffle.

At this point, members of the Search Committee were excused.

Vestry Meeting

Financials

Pat spoke about the Investment Fund doing well lately and made the point that the only money spent this year for capital improvement was collected in 2016. She also reported no unusual trends, and no money spent so far on the Rector Search process.

A meeting took place earlier today concerning Capital Campaign projects. Patty Mertens knows someone connected with the Conservancy who will take a walk around the Good Shepherd campus to give us a sense about adaptability – and other – needs of our property/facilities in order to serve our population more comfortably and safely.

Joe moved to accept the financial report and Julie seconded the motion.

Property Committee Proposal

A local contractor has examined a number of masonry issues, painting, pointing, walls, ceilings, steps, around Jewett Hall, Rectory, and Church, as have Jennifer & Charlie, and one contractor has come in at a very good estimated bid on all needs. There remains the need to discuss and itemize the details with said contractor, but a motion was made by Joe, and seconded by Carol, and it was unanimously agreed that the vestry is willing to receive the information via email rather than waiting for the next meeting. Consensus was then extended to decision-making/voting via email. Charlie reported that the tile drain pipe near the St Francis garden, which expels rainwater from several of our rooftops, has become very clogged and needs to be hand dug (because of its proximity to a gas line).

Katie moved and Julia seconded a motion which was unanimously approved to accept a \$1,300 bid on the necessary exploratory dig.

Old Business

None.

New Business

There was a query about the possibility of joining with Ascension in a Spring Lawn Sale – perhaps in May. After discussion, it was agreed upon that the parishes have a significant number of projects and undertakings at present and extending into the summer and beyond, and our involvement in that endeavor needs to be postponed for now.

Meeting closed with prayer at 8:30pm and Joe moved, Katie seconded, that the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Spina