

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd

Vestry Meeting June 21, 2017

Present: Charlie Ohl, Dennis Byczynski, Jo Meachem, Zoe Kosten, Carol Burns, Joe Spina, Julia Mount, Pat Lalonde, Patty Mertens, Katie Thomas, Kathy Boone (clerk)

Excused: (all present)

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

Rector Search and Updates

Jo reported on revision of the profile to incorporate Ascension as well as to address other changes that seemed indicated. The committee will meet again on Monday to finalize.

Effective for Sunday, July 2, the bulletin board will read: 8:30 a.m. Eucharist; 10:30 a.m. Choral Eucharist; and 12:30 p.m. Contemporary Service with Music. Web address will also be included.

Ann has indicated she would not be interested in candidacy for the position. Zoe and Jo reported Ann's opinion that a full-time rector is not necessary and that a seven-unit position would meet our needs – e.g., three - four units of administration, two units of services and preparation, one unit of pastoral care – with flexibility to shift as the rector gets to know the parish and our needs better.

There was discussion of different types of people being attracted to a 10-unit vs. 7-unit position. Dennis also noted that the position would be 7-unit plus housing.

Katie moved, Joe seconded and a seven-unit position plus housing was approved with one abstention.

Long Term Supply Extension

Ann Markle's contract expires at the end of June. Charlie and Pat will discuss any changes relative to health insurance. With any necessary changes

thereto, Joe moved, Zoe seconded, and extension of Ann's contract for six months was unanimously approved.

Strawberry Festival Update

Pat reported that we have 15 baskets, most food has been purchased, and helper sign-ups are looking good. Banjo band, face painting, games, and tents (if needed) are all in order.

Financials

Pat noted that we are still saving money due to not having a rector, although pledge and plate are a little behind. Attendance has been down. Capital campaign is going well; we've met the target for the first match and are now earning dollar-for-dollar match from our second donor. Patty reported on the possibility of another match challenge and will follow up. Joe moved, Julia seconded, and the financials were accepted unanimously.

Patty reported on her research on bequests vs. endowment. She furnished her comprehensive findings to Pat and a summary report to the vestry, differentiating among endowment, bequest, loss/gain/interest, fees, and transfers/withdrawals. The recommendation is to have two separate accounts: (i) endowment and (ii) bequests. It is also important to distinguish between endowment and gifts/bequests in order to address misperceptions that we have been "spending our endowment." Pat has researched and reported that splitting the accounts should have no effect on fees. There is also a recommendation to obtain legal counsel in splitting the accounts.

Property Report

A report on upcoming expenses and proposals for vestry approval was presented. Proposals include work on exterior basement door, church and chapel hallway floors, cottage renovations, and St. Francis downspout drain. Charlie is researching the latter problem with a City of Buffalo contact in the hope that the city has plans

Joe moved, Julia seconded, and renovation of hallway floors (\$3700 total), plus cottage renovations up to a total of \$6000 was unanimously approved (with proposals pending).

New Business

Charlie reported on attendance of approx. 300 children from School 54 for Flag Day festivities.

Dennis reported on careless movement of cat litter at the Pet Food Pantry that resulted in many broken bags of litter. There was no explanation of why or how this could have happened.

Julia reported that there are now seven community volunteers at the (People) Food Pantry.

Joe moved, Zoe seconded, and all approved adjournment. Meeting closed with prayer at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Boone