

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd

Vestry Meeting October 26, 2016 (as amended Nov. 16, 2016)

Present: Nancy Cich, Carol Burns, Joe Spina, Debbie Wiesner, Patty Mertens, Katie Thomas, Pat LaLonde, Kathy Boone (clerk).

Excused: Charlie Ohl, Elaine Richau

Meeting opened with prayer at 6:50 p.m. Joe moved, Carol seconded, and September minutes were approved unanimously. Joe moved, Katie seconded, and the meeting agenda was approved unanimously.

Wardens Report

Transition:

Nancy, Charlie, and Ascension's warden Dennis B. met with diocesan liaisons Pete Dempsey-Sims and Vicki Zust. There was discussion of Ascension's move back to Sunday afternoon service time, as well as challenges as they await release of funds from the sale of their parish property. Vicki recommended looking at 5-6 units for a rector (one unit = 4 hours). By comparison, Cathy Dempsey-Sims began at 10 units and reduced to 8 units for Good Shepherd when Ascension joined us.

Pat's assessment is that we cannot afford 8 units. No further discussion has yet taken place of any other creative solutions.

Although Ascension remains satisfied with our relationship, they are unable to make any commitments at present given their financial stalemate.

Patty expressed that we should request a copy of Ascension's financial statements for review.

It was also reported that the search committee has now received OTM questions (Office of Transitional Ministry): these answers are required in order to post our position.

There was discussion of the search budget, to include travel, accommodation and meals, and moving expenses. Katie moved to budget \$15,000 (based on

an East Coach search), Carol seconded, and the search budget was unanimously approved.

Nominating Committee

Elaine and Debbie will be going off vestry and Nancy's term as warden is ending. Elaine, Debbie, and Nancy will thus constitute the nominating committee.

Financials

Pat noted that we are trending low in both pledge and plate, but we have not had to withdraw from the endowment for operating expenses. She is looking toward the 2017 budget and requested the vestry to think about any adjustments in compensation for staff for discussion at next meeting. Pat also reported ongoing issues with our paycheck service provider and is looking into making a change. She has also submitted paperwork for Good Shepherd to participate in Amazon Smile.

Joe moved, Debbie seconded, and the financials were unanimously accepted.

Property Report

Carol reported that Smith Hall odor issues were discovered to be emanating from dishwasher and the problem has been addressed. Bids are out for needed repairs and maintenance in the rectory.

There was discussion of draft Property Committee guidelines, including the appropriate threshold for vestry approval of Property Committee expenditures.

Patty moved to approve the Property Committee guidelines as modified to require 2-3 bids for projects costing \$2500 or more. Debbie seconded and all approved.

Patty moved to approve \$10,000 for rectory maintenance and repairs; \$625 for electrical box in Children's Chapel; and \$3,285 for ceiling in nursery (already covered by insurance). Katie seconded and all approved.

A copy of the guidelines and budget are attached to the minutes.

Old Business

School 54 outreach is being reinvigorated and shepherded by Jo Meachem.

New Business

Nancy reported that Elaine is proposing a specific Christmas outreach project, such as adopting a family, a project involving goods rather than money. Katie described her participation in the Priscilla Project, which pairs supportive volunteers with refugee women expecting their first child. There was consensus on Katie following up on this for us.

There was consensus that Prayers of the People should include last names unless otherwise requested; Nancy will contact Ann about this.

Meeting closed with prayer at 8:15 p.m. Joe moved, Patty seconded, and all approved adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Boone