

Christ Episcopal Church
Minutes of Vestry Meeting

April 24, 2018

In attendance were The Rev. Cindy Simpson, Assistant Rector; and Vestry members: Christie Carrico, Senior Warden; Mary Barnstead, Geof Fuller, Adebayo Lanionu, Meghan Matulka, Steve McNeil, Katherine Schexneider, and Audra Snider. In attendance for a part of the meeting were Peggy Gilliam and George Wolohojian.

Farewell to George Wolohojian and Peggy Gilliam and Welcome to Audra Snider and Rob Follit

There was informal celebration for all Vestry, specifically new and departing members; Senior Warden Christie Carrico then presented certificates and gifts to departing members Peggy Gilliam and George Wolohojian.

Opening Devotion & Prayer – Rev. Simpson

Christie Carrico convened the meeting at 7:31 PM and Rev. Simpson offered the opening prayer. Christie presented a Vestry notebook to Audra Snider; introductions were made around the table.

Review and Approval of the Minutes of March 27, 2018 meeting

There was a motion to approve the March 2018 minutes as amended. The motion was seconded and passed.

Interim Rector Search Report – Christie Carrico

Christie reported that the interim search subcommittee had received a list of candidates from the diocese and completed interviews on three candidates; the first two candidates were “underwhelming”. The committee members liked the third candidate very much. A Skype interview was held; the candidate is preparing to retire from her current diocesan position, and wants to spend the last ten years of her ministry in Interim Rector positions. A face-to-face interview will be conducted this Thursday, as the candidate arrives Wednesday and will stay through services on Sunday. She will visit the school and the Rockville area, and will have dinner with the Vestry. Katherine said the candidate would be a wonderful force to help us tackle issues and try out new things. It is important to note that she is also exploring other opportunities at this time. Mary added we should all listen to the candidate as she is about helping people accept change. Bayo agreed with the others, and added he loved her way of give and take on discussions during the interview. She is a strong negotiator. It seemed we are also are appealing to her.

CES Update (including real estate)

Christie said she did not attend the recent school board meeting and had no report. She has met with a new board member who has knowledge and experience with property. There is some dissatisfaction with the realtor who has been trying to sell the Jefferson Building. The new board member provided names of two other realtors to talk to. The plan is to meet with the current listing realtor to debrief and then reenter market with a new realtor.

CES Scholarship – second vote

Christie reviewed the 50% scholarship of CES tuition (currently \$9200) for a needy student whose parents are parishioners in the Church. There was a motion to continue the CEC-CES scholarship; the motion was seconded and passed.

Finance Report – Steve McNeil

Steve reported that the parish had a good month financially, in March. Pledges got caught up thanks to Christie's "temple talk". We're only down 3% year to date. Expenses are on target as we completed the first quarter. So far this year, there has been considerable savings due to the position vacancy.

March is the second consecutive month of loss for the endowment investments, but the fund is still up for the fiscal year (October – September).

For transition / Rector search, the Vestry had previously approved \$24K for expenses; we have spent 12K so far. Also to note from the balance sheet, Steve said there was \$6700 damage from the windstorm; we anticipate recouping \$5700 from Insurance.

Stage 2 Funding for Rector Search

Christie reviewed the funding for the Rector search, and said there will be upcoming expenses that need to be funded, including travel for search committee, a party for the interim Rector and for the new Rector, etc. There was a motion to approve another \$16,000 to fund the continuing expenses for the search process; funding to come from Endowment interest. The motion was seconded; the motion passed. *(need second vote)*

Update on the Capital Campaign: "Firm Foundation, Bright Future" – George Wolohojian

George reported he will continue to be available to report on the capital campaign, saying that for the foreseeable future the campaign will focus on parents and alumni. The total pledged is at almost 2.5 million dollars; renovation of the Murdock room is scheduled to happen during the summer. George said he will keep all informed. Meetings are continuing, to provide information about the school to possible donors.

Discussion about a Nesting Arrangement for St. Barnabas Deaf Congregation

Christie reported that Rev. Simpson received an email from the St Barnabas congregation, the Diocese's only deaf congregation, who for the last 40 years has been housed at St John's Norwood. St Barnabas is exploring new locations, in an area with a higher density of deaf individuals along the I-270 corridor and close to the highway and close to Metro. They are looking to have one morning service once a month and on one Sunday each month, celebrate with our parish. There are typically five to ten persons who worship at St Barnabas, with a high of about 21 worshippers, on Easter. The congregation will need a little storage and office space. The fee they can pay Christ Church \$2500/year.

Christie said a relationship with St Barnabas congregation would broaden our diversity. There was discussion about the concern of taking on new ministry; also comment that just as the Korean Congregation is leaving, St Barnabas is reaching out. There was discussion on a potential trial period, There was consensus to move forward with discussion with St Barnabas.

Committee Reports

Environmental Stewardship – Cindy – great watershed cleanup a couple of weeks ago.

Property – Geof reported on property:

- A number of the lighted Exit signs were burned out and have now been replaced.
- Jim Chellini has contacted us about changing from heating to air conditioning in the church building; Wayne will follow up to schedule the work.
- There was some roof damage from the recent wind storm; several trees blew down as well and we are waiting to hear from insurance.
- It appears there is water seeping into the walls of the bell tower, and it appears it is windblown rain that may be getting in. Christie said there is waterproof siding on the inside, and she asked Geof to check with Janice on what work has been done.
- The soffit on Jefferson Building has deteriorated, and we will need to decide how to proceed.
- The roof on the pre-school building may need to be replaced (this would be a school expense).

St Francis Flock – Meghan reported the committee is planning two trips this summer, likely around July 28 & 29, to Poplar Spring and Stargazing Farm. The committee is researching the possibility of renting a bus; Cindy said Michele has information on bus availability and on liability.

Outreach – Katherine reported that the Outreach Committee continues to make its payments to outside ministries.

Pastoral Care – Audra said she is part of a core group is visiting homebound parishioners.

Meghan commented that when her father was dying and when Laurie's brother was dying, she didn't realize about Chefs and the service provided to families in need.

Communications – no report

Fellowship – no report.

Adult Christian Formation – Mary said the committee needs members.

Welcoming – Bayo said the newcomer reception will be held on June 10th.

Stewardship – no report

Old Business:

There was no old business.

New Business:

Christie invited all members to join her and the Interim candidate for dinner at **Il Pizzico** on Friday evening at 6:30 pm.

Mary said she has been communicating with the individuals suggested for the small group researching services (possible combining of the 9 AM & 11 AM services).

Date of Next Meeting: May 22, 2018

Prayer and Adjournment

The closing prayer was offered by Christie Carrico, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dotty Reitwiesner