

Christ Episcopal Church
Minutes of Vestry Meeting

October 23, 2018

In attendance were The Rev. Debra Kissinger, Interim Rector; The Rev. Cindy Simpson, Assistant Rector; and Vestry members: Christie Carrico, Senior Warden; Wayne Cross, Junior Warden; Mary Barnstead, Rob Follit, Geof Fuller, Adebayo Lanionu, Meghan Matulka, Delia McCormick, Steve McNeil, Katherine Schexneider, and Audra Snider. In attendance for a part of the meeting were members of the Search Committee: Janice Musselman, Mark Wright, Emily Pearce, Lynn Posorske, Steven Renfrew, Honore Kaseya, and Jim Suit.

Devotion, Scripture, and Opening Prayer - Mother Debra

Mother Debra convened the meeting at 7:00 PM, and led the vestry in an opening prayer.

Search Committee Report – Janice Musselman & the Search Committee

Janice Musselman addressed the vestry on behalf of the committee; first saying it was not surprising that the #1 candidate had accepted another call, as that search process was further along. All three of the top candidates are very qualified, she said, and there was a literal tie for the #2 & #3 candidates. Members of the Search committee introduced themselves; the Vestry then introduced themselves to committee.

Janice asked Vestry members to carefully read each candidate profile, and she asked all to pay close attention to the caveats presented. Janice checked three references for each, with a mix of lay and clergy; our bishop also checked with the candidates' bishops. Committee members spoke of their interviews.

Emily said these candidates are the cream of the crop. Jim said we would be well served by any of these candidates. Lynn added she can easily envision any of the three stepping right in.

Steve said that at the end of the process, it was easy to choose these three. Honore said these are phenomenal people the search committee has submitted to you. They all have skills that were mentioned in the focus groups.

In discussion, a question was asked on the quality of the candidates' sermons. Janice replied all are excellent, yet have different styles. On stewardship skills, one candidate was heavily involved with turning a parish around from almost closing.

Christie, on behalf of Vestry, thanked the search committee for their time, work, and dedication. Jim expressed thanks to Janice for her leadership and added that, as a committee, all are indebted to Janice for all of her work.

Review and Approval of the Minutes of September 25, 2018 meeting

There was a motion to accept the September 2018 minutes as amended. The motion was seconded and passed.

Jefferson Building Update – Christie Carrico

Christie reported that an offer has been made to purchase the Jefferson building which would remove the existing parking lot. The issue of parking has to be resolved, or the sale will be a no-go.

Finance Report – Steve McNeil

Steve presented the September finance report, first reporting a net income for the month of \$3700; we did OK and are up 2% YTD, putting the parish in pretty good shape to make budget. An adjustment was made, as a contribution that was received in May was actually for the capital campaign.

In Expenses, there is some overlap in the Music line item, however, Jason's salary for the rest of year should balance as lower than budgeted. In Facilities Maintenance, the year over year seems over budget but the day porter didn't bill evenly through the year.

Steve then reviewed the balance sheet. Of note, the school primarily paid for the Murdock Room renovation. The Endowment fund currently has \$192,000 for spending; after approved upcoming expenditures, there is about \$168,000 available for spending. Steve reported the swap on the Jefferson Building, at the end of September, was at \$346,000; currently, the swap is at \$326,000.

Steve proposed to set aside \$15,000 for legal fees, the funding to come from the Endowment fund. The motion was seconded and passed. A Second vote will be needed.

Ministry Committee Reports

Adult Christian Formation – There was discussion on upcoming forum events. June 2 or 9 are possible dates for the spring newcomer reception.

Communications – Christie reported that Jeremy Snider met with Stewardship in coordination with the Communications committee, and prepared a printed brochure to be handed out; Stewardship chose not to hand it out, but left the brochures in a pile to be picked up as people picked up their pledge cards. Audra said in the new letter sent out today, there is a link that will go to the website and to the brochure.

Environmental Stewardship – Rob reported the committee is very devoted to plastic pollution awareness. The committee is preparing training and education on recycling, separating recycling (paper, plastic, etc.), hoping this will be a focus for the school and the church.

The (previously discussed) bird bath will be added.

Fellowship – No report

Outreach - No report.

Pastoral Care – No report

Property – Geof mentioned the following specifics:

- Drains were cleaned out in the boiler room.
- Flooding continues in the Parish House basement
- The Sacristy camera will be installed in the hall outside of the sacristy rather than the hall outside the sanctuary.
- Michele Craig has suggested replacing the carpet in the youth room; the cost of the new flooring will be around \$5,000. A few wet spots have been found. In discussion, Meghan recommended Shockwave to remove the mold.

St Francis Flock – Meghan reminded all that the Pet Memorial service will be held on November 18th. She thanked the clergy for the Blessing of the Animals.

Stewardship – Mother Debra said the committee had put together a communication plan. Christie noted that there had been no ministry minutes this year. The Vestry offered to assist the Stewardship Committee. Suggestions for speakers for ministry minutes were made: Rachel Pepper; Jim Suit; Kate Albus; Katherine and/or Ben Shuman. Wayne will talk with Tristan.

Welcoming – the fall newcomer's reception will be on December 2nd.

Interim Report - Mother Debra

A written report from the Interim Rector was distributed prior to the meeting. The Vestry provided feedback from the congregation to Mother Debra.

New Business:

Dotty is moving! We need a new Secretary

- Dotty suggested asking a former Vestry member to take minutes for the remainder of the current Vestry year.

Regional Gathering Central Montgomery County

- An invitation has been made from the Bishop's office to attend the upcoming regional gathering (at St Francis, Potomac, on October 30).

Bishop's schedule on 11/25/18

- There was discussion and consensus to hold a reception between the 9 & 11 services, but not to hold a lunch, as the Bishop will meet with the Vestry during discernment for the new Rector

Portrait of Fr McDuffie

- There was consensus to have a reception and dedication of the portrait, and to invite John and Mary. The likely date will be January 13th.

Other

- There was discussion on upcoming adult forum topics.
- Vestry members were thanked for submitting their pledge cards.

Old Business:

Pledge Report

- No discussion

Safe Church Guidelines

- No discussion

3 to 2 Service Schedule Conversation

- Earlier discussion

Date of Next Meeting: November 27, 2018

Closing Prayer and Adjournment

The closing prayer was offered by Meghan, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dotty Reitwiesner