

"Perfect Love Casts Out Fear"

Christ Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting Minutes

July 25, 2017

7:00 p.m.

New Brick

Members Present: Fr. Earl Mullins, Sonni Aribiah, George Toth, J.B. Hanson, Duane Smith, Jan Deboissiere, Preethi Jackson, Ron Couch, Paula Rees, Steve Alpern, Terry Hurford

Members Absent: Glenda Sanchez, Michael Humkey, Dione Mahoney, Shari Underwood

Special Guest: Donna Campagna

The evening begins at 6:50 pm in New Brick with a meditation led by Jan. The focus of this meditation was on the importance of humor and levity. Then, Jan led the Vestry in prayer followed by a dinner provided by Steve and Paula.

As dinner concluded, Father Earl initiated a round of Vestry member check-ins. In the spirit of fellowship, various anecdotes and personal vignettes were exchanged by those around the table.

The meeting began at 7:42 with a series of prayers led by Fr. Earl.

Minutes (attached):

Motion- To accept the minutes of the June 2017 Vestry meeting was seconded and approved unanimously with no abstentions.

Corrections: Some minor spelling errors.

Correspondence:

- None

Treasurer's Report (attached):

Rectory Mold removal has depleted the Rectory reserve. We know that large maintenance repairs loom ahead and we've started a NB Roof Reserve and PH Roof Reserve to help structure for better long term maintenance funding. We continue to need to use our Cash Reserve, which hinders our ability to fund the maintenance reserves! Currently the reserves have been underfunded for 2017 but we hope to catch up in the summer and fall.

The Vestry would like to recognize and thank the Treasurer and Counters for all of their hard work during this transition period.

Motion-To accept the June Treasurer's report for audit was seconded and approved unanimously with no abstentions.

Review of Items Presently Before the Vestry

- 2015 Financial Audit (Terry) – A brief discussion was held. Terry mentioned that a request for information has been sent to the Audit Committee but a reply has not been forthcoming. Some discussion was held pertaining to closing out the 2015 audit and the scheduling of the 2016 Audit. Fr. Earl recommended that the church start Finance and Investment committees. Steve suggested that the Wardens meet with the Audit committee to initiate a 2016 Audit. Sonni agreed to be the point person for that effort.
- Front Office Phone System (Sonni) – Sonni provided some information, provided by Kent Riggins, on what would be involved in replacing the phone system in the Parish Hall. The Vestry discussed various, possible solutions for the phone replacement. Sonni will talk to the parish administrator about obtaining quotes from various vendors (Verizon, Comcast, etc.)
- Parish Loan Update (Terry & Sonni) – Paperwork is being gathered and transmitted to the bank (M&T) for review. It will most likely take approximately a month to obtain the loan once all the paperwork is complete.
- Buildings and Grounds Committee Update (Glenda) – Working on gathering contractors to provide estimates to repair the Rectory. Also, Sonni announced that George has resigned from the Buildings & Grounds Committee.

George and Shahra Toth have donated a generous gift toward replacing the Old Brick Sacristy exterior clapboard.

Motion-To graciously accept George and Shahra Toth generous gift and initiate work on the threshold repair contingency stipulated in the gift was seconded and approved unanimously with no abstentions.

- Outreach Committee Update (Dione) – No update this month. Some discussion was held on topics related to the Captain Underpants underwear drive and backpack ministry.
- Discernment Committee Update (Donna) – Donna provided an update on the Discernment Committee activities. They are planning to submit 3 names to the Vestry for consideration. There will be a symbolic “hand-off” from the Discernment Committee to the Vestry this upcoming Sunday. Donna also discussed how relevant information will be passed from the committee to the Vestry. A discussion of the vetting process was held. Terry asked for clarification on his and Ron’s role in the upcoming decision. The general understanding is that officers of the church cannot vote but they do have a voice in the discussions. Steve advocated for consultation of the church by-laws for clarification. The by-laws are clear that Non-elected members of the Vestry (e.g. Registrar and Treasurer) cannot vote on matters related to the calling of a new rector.

New Business:

- Vestry Discernment Process – Fr. Earl shared an example selection process model that the Vestry could use to complete the Discernment process. A lively discussion was held. There was lots of excitement about the high quality of the candidates in the pool. Fr. Earl stressed the importance of strict confidentiality among the Vestry during this final phase of the process.
- Vestry members are to send at least three interview questions to George before next Tuesday (getoth@verizon.net).

The Vestry adjourned for dessert at 9:45 pm

The Vestry reconvened from dessert at 9:55 pm

- Vestry Nominations Committee – Sonni solicited the Vestry for someone to be the Chair of the Nomination Committee. Jan volunteered to be the Chair. Fr. Earl will work with Jan and Sonni to establish appropriate timelines. The annual meeting will be held on October 28th.

- Parish Festival: Ron requested confirmation of the budget for this year's parish festival from Terry.

Wardens Reports

- **Church Front Office Phone System** – We will discuss a request by the Parish Administrator for an updated Phone System for the Front Office.
- **Memorial Funds 'Seed Money' for Organ Purchase** – We will discuss Dione's suggestions.
- **Old Brick Threshold Replacement** – We will finalize the Vestry's choice for implementation
- **Offer to Repair Old Brick Sacristy Exterior Clapboard** – We will discuss a parishioner's offer to repair the Old Brick Sacristy exterior clapboard.

Interim Rector's Report:

- No report this month.

Executive Session:

There was no Executive Session this month.

Wrap Up:

Fr. Earl talked about the process of beginning to say goodbye to Christ Church.

Next Meeting: August 29, 2017

- **Dinner:** - JB and Jan
- **Meditation:** - Ron
 - **Information Table:** June – Preethi Jackson
July – Dione Mahoney
August – Ron Couch

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 PM with a Prayer led by Fr. Earl.

Respectfully submitted,

