



VESTRY MEETING MINUTES
November 14, 2017

Present: John Boris, Cindy Diehl, Father Malm, Mother Belanger, Kelly Gable, Rich Kelly, Jennifer Long, Ashley Mather, Jennifer Pease, Jean Reed, Chris Rugaber, Mary Stewart, Jan Wolff and Lorna Worley

Call To Order

Father Malm called the meeting to order at 7:10 with a prayer.

Old Business

The Minutes of the October 17, 2017 meeting were approved as written.

Stewardship. Chris Rugaber reported that by October 12th we had received 144 pledges. Forty six pledges were the same, 63 were increased and 14 were new. The amount comes to just over \$560,000. The average pledge is \$3,900. He feels like this is a good start. The members of La Gracia will receive their pledge cards this weekend. Cindy Diehl and Jean Reed will give stewardship remarks at services this Sunday. There will be a reminder to pledge in this Friday's Grace news.

Financial Report. John Boris went over the October financial report and also reviewed the first pass of the 2018 budget. There is currently \$986,000 in the trust. At this time in the year we have spent \$13,000 more than we had budgeted. For the 2018 budget requests and changes can still be submitted by Thanksgiving to John, Chris or Beth. In the first draft of the 2018 budget, church personnel will receive a 1% increase. Final budget decisions will be made in January.

Mother Fanny mentioned that Pedro may need help paying for the increase in his insurance. Father Malm explained about the two-year phase in the insurance for employees. If Pedro requests assistance it will have to go before the Personnel Committee.

Jean Reed feels that the 1% increase is too low. Total expenses are going up at 5% over last year.

There was a discussion on the non-pledged income. The plate money is anonymous money and the increase over the last two years is something we have to study a bit further.

The executive committee of the vestry has voted to restore our diocesan pledge by 5%.

If we have a seminarian summer intern for 8 weeks, 40 hours a week, it will cost \$1,500. Our seminarians are given \$400 a semester.

HVAC. Rich Kelly submitted a written report. The preliminary plan is that the HVAC system will be replaced everywhere except in the Nave. Four thousand dollars has been spent to study the VRF

(variant refrigeration flow). Cole and Denny, a firm in Alexandria has been hired. Rich and Kristine will meet with them. The committee will have a review by PEG, the engineering group, by December 1st, and will then have the information to obtain bids. Rich plans to discuss funding the project at the Vestry Executive Committee meeting on December 5th. There should be a look at the Nave by the engineers even though we are not planning any changes there at this time. The architects and the engineers both know the Grace Church building which is a plus going into this project.

The Vestry is requesting a 4% payout from the trust. The Sr. Warden, Lorna Worley, made a motion that the vestry request a 4% withdrawal of the amount in the trust. It was second by Mary Stewart and passed unanimously. It was further amended in a second motion made by Jean Reed and second by Kelly Gable, to use the funds to allow the Jr. Warden to proceed with the preliminary work for the new HVAC system. This motion also passed unanimously. We should be able by the end of the year to have clear cost estimates. Jean Reed mentioned that there will be quite a bit to take out in the demolition.

New Business

Youth Report. Kelly Gable mentioned our very active youth program. She complimented Jenni Faires for all she has done for these programs. There are 13 adult volunteers. Kelly is working specifically with the Rite 13 program. There is a budget of \$6,000 for these programs. Five thousand of this money goes toward the pilgrimages. With that leaving only \$1,000, the children do additional fundraising. The youth program is a big recruiting point for the church. Mary Stewart asked if there would be a mission trip this year. The next mission trip will be in 2019.

Christian Education. There are 30 Sunday School teachers and youth leaders. One hundred lay adults participate in these programs. Mary Stewart requested the number of current pledging units. Father Malm said there are 239. The data base carries 600 - 700 who have been baptized. A number of vestry members expressed appreciation for all that Jenni has done for the education programs.

Reports

Sr. Warden. It has been five weeks since her accident and she is making great progress. She is learning to write with her left hand. A week was spent at Howard University Hospital and then she was moved to Mt. Vernon for rehabilitation. Physical therapy will soon be starting three times a week. The dinners have been very much appreciated. Her personal goal is to sing in the choir on Christmas Eve.

Rector. The school has paid for new blinds for Merrow Hall. They had a very nice gala two weeks ago. He has asked Barry Joyner and Kristine Hesse to join the new Financial Committee headed by Jonathan Wolcott. Since our last meeting he has had a wedding, a funeral, his daughter Jessica delivered a daughter and he attended the diocesan convention. A third full time bishop will be elected in November. There will be an assisting bishop for the next six - eight months. Bishop Shannon will visit our parish on March 31 - Easter Eve. Those who have attended SSJE and those who hope to go in the future will meet every other month in the new narthex. He attended a VOICE meeting which was attended by the candidates for governor. There were eight - ten members of Grace church who were included in the over 1600 attendees. The newcomers' reception was very nice. His daughter's baby will be baptized at the 11:15 service on December 17.

Roundtable

Jean Reed - Thanked those who helped at the newcomers' reception. Fourteen people attended and one family was specifically looking for a Rite 1 children's service. We need to look at what to do with the kitchen.

Mother Fanny - How do we protect people on Sunday during services? There is a phone in the coat closet in the new narthex. She feels that calling for assistance is probably too late. Perhaps an usher should stand outside. Mary Stewart will share some information on this subject in the future.

Father Malm and Jean feel we should have a better system and keep the ushers informed.

Ashley Mathers appreciates her sub-deacon training.

Mary Stewart thanked Jean for always jumping in to help.

Cindy Diehl. Feels the glass door in the foyer needs to be fixed. Rich explained how it should be handled.

Jennifer Pease. Needs to have three volunteers for the hot meal program this Saturday. The other months are booked. Thanks to all who donated a Thanksgiving basket. Mother Fanny met the goal and more. She asked for someone to relieve her one Sunday in December for lockup.

Kelly Gable. Pray for Jason Roberson's ordination.

Chris Rugaber. Will have the stewardship statement blown up.

Rich Kelly. The coffee maker has been cleaned and repaired. EYC will unload baskets on Sunday. Would like to have additional \$25 gift certificates for grocery stores.

John Boris. Appreciates being upheld by the Grace community during his recuperation for his arm.

Father Malm. This current vestry will have only two more meetings. Look for good people to run in January.

The meeting ended with a prayer at nine o'clock

