



VESTRY MEETING MINUTES
December 12, 2017

Present: Mother Belanger, John Boris, Cindy Diehl, Jenni Faires, Rich Kelly, Chris Kupczyk, Jennifer Long, Father Malm, Jennifer Pease, Jean Reed, Chris Rugaber, Ashby Rushing, 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 November 14, 2017 were approved as amended.

Stewardship. There have been 187 pledges made for a total of \$680,083. Father Malm and Beth Calaman will look at who we have not yet heard from. Chris Rugaber reported that he believes there are 73 former pledges from which we have not heard. Phone calls will be made by the stewardship committee and vestry members. Thank you notes will be sent at the end of the campaign.

Financial Report. John Boris reported on his meeting with the administrators of the trust. The trust will provide \$23,000 which will be put toward the expenses of the new HVAC. We will thank the trustees. Rich Kelly feels that we should again ask the trust for 4% in January 2018.

HVAC Report. Rich Kelly provided a written report. Cole and Denny have had their first review but were not ready with facts and figures for this meeting. There should be bids and a walk through the building by the end of the week. The vestry needs to spend the next month deciding how to raise the money for this project. Church loans are at approximately 4%. The vestry needs to decide how long the loan should be for and how to pay the loan back. Jean Reed mentioned that the kitchen was not done in 1993 and maybe we should look at that now. Maybe even a small renovation. We will look at the kitchen. The radiators will be kept and each will have a thermostat. Father Malm reminded that we need to keep Cole and Denny and Potomac Energy on track. Who will supervise the rebuild? Rich will be involved. We should have good figures by January 16. We want to have signed contracts with both groups as soon as possible and inform the congregation at the annual meeting. Jean thinks we should have good renderings of what it will look like at the end of the project.

New Tax. Rich Kelly brought to the attention of the vestry that Alexandria has a new sewer tax. The cost to Grace Church will be \$4,680 yearly. If the church does 50 hours of community service by February 14, we will get a 10% discount. Jenni will head this project and have youth leaders pick a day to do community service so we can get the discount.

New Business

Report On Pastoral Care. Cindy Diehl reported that the Community of Hope International (COHI) is the largest part of pastoral care. The COHI program is less expensive than the Stephen Minister Program. COHI has 11 members who serve as chaplains. One person went to the annual conference in Houston. The card ministry is another big part of pastoral care led by Nancy Robinson and John Boris. The advent cards have just been completed. They also work with outreach and help with meals on wheels and rides for parishioners as needed. The money in the budget is used for retreats and the COHI conference. Father Malm mentioned how it is nice to visit parishioners and see the cards they have received. Jean Reed mentioned that Alice Russell is now in assisted living and she will be added to the COHI visit list.

Reports

Treasurer. John reported that the trust is up to \$996,000. We are \$5,000 into the black this month. If you need reimbursement, please give the information to Beth by this Friday. Working on the second read of the budget. The first had a 1% increase in compensation for the staff. We need to show a balanced budget to the parish in January. The Personnel Committee decided that since there have been no evaluations of the staff that there will be no increases. Jean Reed would like to see how a 2% increase would look. Each of the 7 employees last year were given increases based on guidance from the Personnel Committee. Rich Kelly feels that the vestry should decide what raises should be given. Jean feels that the Personnel Committee have not done their evaluations and there have not been any merit increases in the last 10 years. Father Malm feels that for 2018 there should be a cost of living increase or nothing. We have no deficit going into December which is good news. We are back to giving 10% of our budget to the diocese. Father Malm directed John Boris and Rich Kelly to have three financing options to look at before the next vestry executive meeting. The parish would be informed at the annual meeting as to how we will pay for the HVAC. We should look at paying back in 3, 7 and 10 years. Chris Rugaber says we must figure out how much we can pay back each year.

Jr. Warden. We have a plan in place for plowing. We saved considerable money last year as we had no events that needed to be plowed.

Sr. Warden. We are all very happy to see that Lorna is back. Her recovery is going exceptionally well and she drove herself to the meeting this evening.

Rector. We have had a great November. We had a record number of Thanksgiving baskets and cards. Prayers for Will Packard and Jason Roberson who were ordained as priests this month. Our seminarians had a good semester. The annual meeting will be on January 28th at 11:15 a.m.. The new VTS Dean has been asked to attend our choral service. Lessons and Carols are on the 31st. There will be two services on the 24th in the morning, greening on the 20th and the pageant on the 17th at 5 P.M. Michelle Cox and Joyce Ames mother have died. Prayers for Eileen Durkin at John Hopkins.

Roundtable

John - Welcomes any names you may have to run for vestry.

Rich - Sunday the EYC will speak about their mission trip. Thanksgiving was wonderful.

Jenni - Children Chapel has had 11 at 9 A.M. and 5 or 6 at 11 A.M. The pageant was fun and chaotic. Judy Willard did a beautiful sign with important dates.

Jennifer P. Thanks to dinner helpers. No lockup on 24th. Having nightmares about lockup. Appreciates all Sally Schneider did for the Thanksgiving baskets. Happy we are in the black.

Jennifer L. Coffee on the 24th after 9 A.M. service and in Merrow Hall on the 31st.

Chris R. - We have new La Gracia pledges.

Chris K. Happy about his foyer group with 6 families who all have children and meet in the afternoon.

Ashby - Receiving cookies for the reception after the pageant. Rich will order the pizzas. A few new coffee hosts.

Jean - Look for newcomers in the next few weeks. Wear your buttons.

Mother Fanny - Thanksgiving went well. We were able to give something to everyone in need. Lots of those who got baskets have come back for services. She had 5 baptisms last Sunday. La Gracia hosted a meal for 50 the Sunday after Thanksgiving. Collecting gift cards so parents can buy gifts for their children. Thanks to Lucy-Lee and Jean for helping with dinner on the 21st.

Lorna - Choir was great at Lessons and Carols.

Father Malm - Presents for the abused women's shelter will be brought to the creche at the 3 and 5 P.M. services on Christmas Eve.

Training for a terrorist attack and spotting suspicious activity will be the subject for the forum on January 14th.

The meeting ended with a prayer at nine o'clock.