

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Vestry Minutes - February 20, 2018

Present: Mother Belanger, Khacki Berry, William Campbell, Anne Caputo, Cindy Diehl, Jonathan Doelp, Jenni Faires, Jennifer Long, Stephen Lovell, Rich Kelly, Chris Kupczyk, Father Malm, Ashley Mather, Richard Newman, Jennifer Pease, Jean Reed, Chris Rugaber, Mary Stewart, Laura Weidenfeld and Jan Wolff.

Call to Order

Fr. Malm called the vestry meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. The January 28, 2018 minutes were approved as written.

Old Business

HVAC Report

Rich Kelly provided a very detailed written report (attached). Father Malm explained the 50/50 financial commitment with the school. Jean Reed reminded the vestry of all the demolition and replacement with this project. He thinks we should also be looking at ceiling tile replacement. Anne Caputo asked about the contingency plan for the events normally held in Merrow Hall. Rich mentioned replacement of carpet, etc., to put a fresh face on the church interior at the close of the HVAC process. He further said that some of the events might need to be held off sight. Anne mentioned that the group will meet soon to decide when to hold the annual tea. Jonathan Doelp feels that the schedule between sending out the information for companies to bid and awarding the selected bid is very ambitious. Father Malm mentioned that the school has their money for this project and though the church has some money available we will need to eventually apply for a loan. Jean feels that we should consider starting a building committee for Rich.

Financial Review

Chris Rugaber reported that January's intake was \$76,174. The budget for 2018 is based on pledges of \$794,000. The Grace Trust is now over one million. The funds held for other groups have claims on their money. There was a discussion on non pledged income. These are people who regularly give but do not pledge. Father Malm mentioned that program coordinators should feel free to discuss any questions they have re their funds with Beth. He explained that there is a pilgrimage every two years. Michael Heintz has donated \$50,000 to the choir fund to create a balance. There are still a few outstanding pledges. Chris Kupczyk requested that we make the trust another fund held for other and all agreed.

Bells

Michael Heintz would like to donate digital bells to Grace Church in memory of his partner John. The control panel would be held in the sacristy and the speakers would be in the tower. They are

volume adjustable and would upgrade the sanctus bell. They would be used by the acolytes and for funerals and weddings. They also can be rung on the hour and 5 minutes before a service. The can be set to play Westminster chimes, a 3 bell peal, a celebration peal, a funeral toll and play Amazing Grace. The cost is \$12,000 - \$18,000 and would be paid for by Mr. Heintz. The vestry would need to look into any permits needed by the city. Father Malm mentioned that churches have been encouraged to ring their bells at certain times. The vestry members will consider this kind offer and discuss further at the March meeting. Jean Reed mentioned that it would be wonderful to call attention to Grace Church in this manner.

Forms

Jan explained to the vestry members the lists of "other duties" for which we are responsible and asked them to sign up for lockup, greeting before services and hosting a simple dinner before vestry meetings. Jean Reed discussed the importance of vestry greeters.

Legacy Society

Mary Hix is chairing. The goal is to have brochures with info on the Legacy Society and to keep track of those who have given in the past in their wills and those who plan to give in their wills. The Legacy Society will be a part of communications. Testimonials will be included in the brochure.

Easter

Jenni Faires mentioned that there were 65 - 70 people who did not have a seat at the 5 P.M. service on Christmas Eve. She is meeting with key people about this issue. However, if you see this situation, please offer your seat to a visitor. She will have a full plan for the Easter services by April.

Reports

Jr. Warden. Met with Scott Fedder and Rich Kelly to discuss the roof tower. The back gutters need to be replaced. There are also a few tiles that need to be replaced. We need to have a professional mason to do work on the flagstone door. Cost should be around \$200. Researching the use of transparent film on the choir loft windows.

Sr. Warden. Reminded the vestry members of the dinner at his home this coming Friday evening.

Rector. Requested the vestry approve an administrative housing allowance amount for his taxes and those of Mother Belanger. A vote passed unanimously for \$3,900 for the Rector and \$2,500 for the Assistant Rector.

Roundtable

Jan thanked Jennifer Pease and Rich Kelly for all they did for the first simple supper during Lent.

Anne mentioned that this will be the 20th year for the tea and requested that the proceeds go to the altar guild whose funds are depleted. Khacki made a motion, second by Anne that the funds go to the altar guild. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Long reminded us to push down bad thoughts with good ones.

Jenni mentioned the chili bowl had been great. Lots of money was made and thanks Rich for all his help.

Father Malm concluded by thanking Rich and others for Shirley's celebration and reception. Lent is a wonderful season and we have a great group of vestry memers.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 with a prayer.

