

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Vestry Minutes - May 15, 2018

Present: Mother Belanger, Khacki Berry, Anne Caputo, Jonathan Doelp, Jenni Faires, Chris Kupczyk, Stephen Lovell, Father Malm, Richard Newman, Jennifer Pease, Jean Reed, Chris Rugaber, Mary Stewart, Laura Weidenfeld and Jan Wolff.

Call to Order

Father Malm opened the meeting at 7:15 with a prayer. The April 17, 2018 vestry minutes were approved as amended.

Report from Grace Episcopal School

Head of School, Patti Culbreth said this has been a very successful year for the school. The enrollment for the next school year is very good. There are four children attending that are children of faculty members. Three students have received the new scholarships in honor of Shirley Tyler, former Head of School. There will be Baroody camps again using the school and church facilities this summer. There is an AED in the school foyer. Training should be set up for the church side. Jean Reed mentioned that we need to supply a sizeable first aid kit. The gift from the fifth grade parents this year will be a new drinking fountain for the second floor. The new school sign will be a bit larger as the current sign is not satisfactory. Two security consultants have recommended to Patti that the fence around the playground be extended to provide a safer environment when the children play on the field. The first estimate was approximately \$40,000. The school will obtain additional estimates.

John Berry, Chair of the School Board, commended Patti on establishing the Shirley Tyler scholarships. The financial aid budget is \$177,000. Approximately 20% of the students receive aid. The school is fully committed to the HVAC project and has made plans for funding their portion. The school and church have established a committee to work on a facilities master plan. The committee is headed by Eric Waskowicz. Their first meeting will be held on June 7th. The school is searching for a replacement for Craig Lawlor, the building supervisor. Patti has received five applications for the position. Jean would like the school and church to consider integrated maintenance. Perhaps the facilities task force could take a look at this possibility. Father Malm feels that there are too many people handling building issues.

New Business

Bells

Father Malm has heard good comments. Frank Waskowicz likes the bell idea but says we would need to make sure it works in conjunction with the current sound system. Richard Newman reported that there would only be one speaker inside. Jean recently attended a funeral at the cathedral and felt the bells added greatly to the service. Jonathan Doelp feels that the issue needs greater discussion. Maybe poll the congregation. Chris Rugaber has heard good comments. Father Malm pointed out that we had

a coffee hour where parishioners could hear the bells. It has also been in the bulletin a number of times. We will vote at the June meeting. The vestry members may generate additional responses in the next month.

Vestry Discussion on Sunday Morning Formation Hour.

Jean feels that there has been improvement this year in the subjects presented at coffee hour and the way they were presented. Perhaps a program of studies that would be publicized in the bulletin. He would like to see more intergenerational events but isn't sure where they would be held.

Chris Kupczyk likes getting different groups together -- older groups, people with similar interests and those with children.

Laura Weidenfeld does not like separating the groups. Likes the diversity in the coffee hour presentations.

Father Malm wants there to be something meaningful for all age groups.

Khacki Berry wants the parents to stay for this hour so the children attend Sunday School.

Jonathan feels that the attendance this year was good and really enjoyed William Campbell's series.

Anne Caputo attends when the topic interests her. She went to more this year than in the past.

Mary Stewart feels that people need to know the options in advance. A few more intense options.

Jan Wolff liked the subjects this year and attended more than in the past.

Chris Rugaber likes the social hour and enjoys looking for new people to meet.

Jenni Faires says there are space issues with La Gracia. Technology issues need to be addressed. We need to be thinking of things for newcomers.

Khacki likes the idea of discussing an issue for two or three weeks.

Father Malm ended the discussion by saying he, Jenni, Mother Fanny and Khacki would like to hear any ideas vestry members have and any speakers that may be of interest.

REPORTS

Treasurer. April was a good pledge month. At Easter we took in \$9,561.

A motion was made by Jean Reed and second by Mary Stewart to rename the Clergy Wellness Endowment Fund. The motion passed unanimously. Following is the definition of the new fund.

The Clergy Wellness Endowment fund is hereby renamed the Clergy Reserve Fund. Income from the Fund is to be used at the direction of the Rector and the Executive Committee to support Grace Episcopal Church clergy, including to offset costs for living expenses, benefits, the cost of retreats,

continuing education programs, conferences and other programs to nurture the clergy of Grace Episcopal Church. If necessary, the Treasurer and Senior Warden, with the consent of the vestry and Rector, are given authority to request redemption of funds within this Fund. The Fund was established in 2006 from a bequest from the estate of Gail Rittgers. In 2018 the Fund was renamed and increased from funds in the amount of \$39,000 that the Rector repaid the parish for a loan to purchase his own home in 2004.

Jr. Warden

A mason was hired to repair the chipped front step at a cost of \$360.

The radiator in the nave has been disconnected. Cost of replacement would be \$5,000.

The coil in the air handler unit was replaced at a cost of \$8,000.

We have added one additional air conditioner unit.

Rector

Was away last month for two weddings that both went very well.

There will be an article in the newsletter announcing that we have a seminarian for three months. Patrick will work 40 hours a week with Mother Fanny. He will give four sermons during the summer. He is living with the Reeder family.

Father Malm thanked Jean and Jenni for their work on the newcomers reception at which ten people attended.

Roundtable

Jenni - June 3rd is Christian Ed recognition. The children will speak at coffee hour.

Anne C. - The 18th Alter Guild Tea was very successful. The altar guild will benefit by \$3,400.

Jonathan - Visited friends in NC. The friends do not pledge in their Catholic Church. The plate is passed.

Chris K. - Celebrated 10th wedding anniversary last week. Mentioned concern re treatment of children that attended 11:15 service and coffee hour. Has heard unkind remarks re the behavior of the children.

Jean - Recently saw Presiding Bishop Curry. He is warm and very impressive. Thanks to all for a successful ministry fair.

Father Malm - There will be two baptisms on Sunday.

The meeting ended at 9:15 with a prayer

