

St. Stephen's Vestry Minutes

May 13, 2019

Attendees: Scott Armstrong, Pat Wojas, Dave Eldon, Corinne Fragnoli, Karol Sprague, Jackie Ingersoll, Dave Stein, Ken Fuhr, Kathy DeCiantis, Justin Wojas, Miranda Spates, Alan Giles, Finance Committee Chairperson-Don Ingersoll, Phil Pierce--Treasurer,

I. Checking in-Scott Armstrong called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M. Vestry members shared something they were grateful for and something they would like prayers for.

II. Approval of Agenda-Consent Calendar

III. Opening Prayer & Scripture-Miranda said an opening prayer and read a scripture passage.

IV. Senior Warden's Report-Scott reported that he didn't have many hospital visits to parishioners this month which was a good thing. He does go to American House regularly to visit our parishioners who are living there. He announced that the youth have two events coming up. Youth Sunday is on June 9th and the Pilgrimage/Mission trip is from June 15-21.

V. Mission Focus-Strategic Planning

a. SPOC committee update-The Holy Conversation meetings have been very well attended. Dave Stein reported that they have been very powerful. Some common themes have been how to attract more youth to the church and perhaps developing a contemporary service. A suggestion was made to invite former Sunday School alumni to the Youth Service. Don Ingersoll volunteered to work on that with Paul Hardy and Jackie Ingersoll. Some of the other suggestions from the Holy Conversations will be passed on to the Worship and Pastoral Care committees.

b. Moving forward-Scott reported that there are no available priest in charge candidates in the near future. Therefore, he proposed hiring Sharon Voelker as a long-term supply priest for two years while we still search for a Priest in Charge. She would take on all the responsibilities of a rector, but her contract terminates when we hire a priest in charge. Her proposed salary will be \$44,500 per year. Since she is retired, we aren't required to provide benefits. Sharon would have church office hours on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and do all services on the weekend. Her official starting date would be June 1. Justin Wojas moved that we accept the contract to hire Sharon Voelker as long-term supply priest at a salary of \$44,500 per year for up to two years. Karol Sprague seconded the motion and it was carried.

VI. Consent Calendar

- a. Minutes from previous meeting-Sent by email
- b. Committee Reports-none received

VII. Old Business:

- a. No items removed from consent agenda
- b. Treasurer's Report- Phil reported that the giving during Easter was much improved over the last couple of months. He discussed the church's future finances. We are running a deficit now which will only increase once we have a full time rector. He proposed that we sell our 5 wooded acres. With the money we would receive, we could put some in the general fund, and then invest the rest, probably in connection with the Endowment Fund. This would enable us to bridge the gap from now until hopefully with a new rector, we could begin to rebuild the number of parishioners. This would also give us the ability to offer a higher salary then we are now able to which would give us the ability to attract a higher quality priest. It also increases the likelihood that we can fund ideas that surface during our Holy Conversations. Justin Wojas moved that we sell the 5 acres of woods. Dave Eldon seconded the motion and it was carried. Dave Stein moved that we form a committee to oversee the selling of the property. Justin Wojas seconded the motion and it was carried.

VII. New Business: The congregation will have to vote on the proposal to sell the 5 acre property. The proposed sale will be presented to the congregation at the "Town Meeting" scheduled for May 19. The July 8 vestry meeting will be held at Karol Sprague's home at 6 pm.

IX. Coming Events:

- Bishop Walkabout-May 17th (St. Paul Cathedral 7:00-9:30 pm)
- Baldwin Soup Kitchen-May 25th
- Bishop Election-June 1st (St. Paul Cathedral)
- St. John's Food Pantry-June 8th
- Youth Sunday/Picnic-June 9th

X. Closing prayer and Adjournment-Scott closed the meeting with a prayer at 9:00 p.m. Next meeting June 10.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jackie Ingersoll, Clerk