

St. Stephen's Vestry Minutes

June 14, 2016

Attendees: Mo. Susan Anslow Williams, Don Ingersoll, Katy Allen, Margie Armstrong, Kathy DeCiantis, Ken Fuhr, Sandy Jose, Richard Kenefic, Patrick Roberts, Norma Ross, Jim Trask, Roy Waters

Opening: Senior Warden Don Ingersoll called the meeting to order at 7:05, members recounted important events/issues in their lives over the last few weeks.

Prayer: Norma Ross led us in a prayer.

Bible Study: Mo. Susan led us in discussion of 2 Cor 8:1-8 (CEB) Be the best in this work of grace. How does our giving impact our lives? Earning cycle, saving cycle, parenting cycle. How does it affect our faith in God? Handout "Creating Congregations of Generous People" Single most effective way of encouraging generosity is leadership. Not a budget crisis but a generosity challenge. if we see a vision that we want to be a part of (caring faith community rather than bible thumping) we can give. 20% of the congregation gives 80% of the budget.

Rector's Report: Mo. Susan away 6/17 to 7/15, Silvia 6/11-15 and 6/27-7/10, Don 7/15-21 and 8/21-9/4. Supply clergy scheduled and budgeted, all covered. Summer decisions when Vestry doesn't meet: made by Rector and Wardens if they can't wait. Made by Wardens if Rector is also away. "I Give" bookmarks have been placed in the pews for e-giving to place in the collection plate if so desired.

Strategic / Generative Topics: (handout) Finance Committee recommendation re: Audit vs. Review "Committee Examination"; after analyzing diocesan and other obligations and requirements for a parish of our size, there is no need for an outside audit. This assures that diocesan and finance committee procedures are being followed/compliance, but may or may not catch money being funneled away. Scott Mayotte, Alex Morley, Karen Mirzoian mentioned as possible members of review committee.

Examination committee must consist of people who do not handle actual transactions and budgets.

Kathy proposed this motion, seconded by Roy: The Vestry hereby accepts the Finance Committee's recommendation for St. Stephen's to continue performing annual committee examinations of its financial operations and records. It is understood that these examinations will be performed using those elements of the national Episcopal

Manual that are relevant to St. Stephen's, and that the examinations would be performed by parishioners who meet the Diocesan qualification standards. It carried without dissent.

Consent calendar: Roy moved to accept May minutes, seconded by Richard and carried without dissent.

Committee updates:

-Finance: Mid-Year: we have about 36% of annual revenue from Jan to May. Typical for this time of year, remember that there are some gifts that have been received but are deferred (spread out each month) but must continue to remind. Median and Mean are dropping, passing of big donors, loss of large pledges.

-Outreach: worry that email chain is not effective for publicity, clarification of who approves submissions. Submit to church chain email or directly to Liz Sinkovich or Ken Fuhr

-Building and Grounds: heat exchanger will be replaced in Parish Hall, getting quotes for sidewalk such that light commercial (caterers) will be able to back up to the door. Refrigerator is leaking and Nikki will replace gasket. Nikki is having locksmith look at back doors to Parish Hall and also egress from Sunday School.

-Hospitality: Feedback from Picnic: due to poor weather held inside which boosted attendance, in consideration of those with mobility issues will continue to hold food portion indoors, with games outdoors.

-Worship: Still considering which congregation to visit Labor Day

-Pastoral Care: Those who wish to reach out to Dave Stein may do so at this address:

Dave Stein
Ploeck 52
69117 Heidelberg
Germany

Ongoing project updates:

-Vestry Summer Retreat: Asset Based Community Development: ABCD possible dates for Jim Gettel 8/23 or 8/25; dinner plus 1-1/2 hour exercise on Asset-based project. Mo. Susan will schedule for 25th.

-Electric Road Sign: taking quotes from vendors now, thought to convert plaque under current sign listing worship times to digital format, have checked with city regarding by-laws. Will bring proposals to Vestry at a later date.

Upcoming events: Ice cream social 6/18, Interfaith service at cathedral Friday 6/24 for Orlando, Service at St. Stephen's 7:30 Thursday 6/23, Community picnic and Lock-in for Jr/Sr high school, host all deanery delegates 8/20, No Vestry meetings July or August

Closing prayer: Led by Mo. Susan

Adjourned: 9:08p.m.