

St. Stephen's Vestry Minutes

March 12, 2018

Attendees: Mother Susan, Scott Armstrong, Justin Wojas, Pat Wojas, Richard Kenefic, Dave Eldon, Roy Waters, Corinne Fragnoli, Rob Redmer, Katy Allen, Jackie Ingersoll

Absent: Alan Giles, Karol Sprague

I. Checking in-Scott Armstrong called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. Vestry members shared something they were grateful for and something they would like prayers for.

II. Election of Clerk- Katy Allen moved, seconded by Richard Kenefic that Jackie Ingersoll be elected Clerk. Motion passed.

III. Approval of Agenda-The Financial report was moved from the consent calendar. Some members had questions so it was tabled until Jim Trask was available. Troy House of Worship Security Class was added to New Business. Justin Wojas moved, seconded by Katy Allen that the agenda be accepted as amended. Motion passed.

IV. Opening Prayer & Scripture-Mother Susan said an opening prayer followed by a Gospel reading from John 15:1-8.

V. Rector's Report-Mother Susan gave an update on her pastoral visits and phone calls made to parishioners in a variety of settings.

She attended part 2 of the "Clergy Clinic in Family Systems" in Chicago 2/19-2/21).

Mother Susan also taught a deanery Eucharistic Ministries class.

She is in the process of teaching the Confirmation Class. Each confirmand has an adult mentor that they will meet with during this period. A Confirmation retreat will be held at Frankenmuth on April 13 & 14. Confirmation will be held April 21st at St. John's, Royal Oak.

The Tuesday Lenten classes are going well. They are averaging 20 people. 10 people attended the visit to the Hindu Temple.

VI. Mission Focus

a. Rector Evaluation-Alice Moss and Rob Redmer evaluated Mother Susan using the new evaluation form. Several changes were recommended especially changing the rating system from 1-3 to 1-5. A blank evaluation form will be sent to members to look at and any recommendations be sent to Scott and Justin. Rob and Alice will review their evaluation and it will be available at the April meeting. Scott recommended having a mid-term review in future.

- b. Hiring for Formation position- Scott began the discussion by informing the Vestry that an associate priest is not a possibility. There are none available at this time. They would not be part-time, even if one was available, and therefore, very expensive. Several members felt that the church needed a sexton or building supervisor. Perhaps the money saved from Ken Fuhr's position and the \$10,000 that we pay to the cleaning service could finance this position. It was felt by some that the small number of children we have in the Sunday school programs does not warrant a paid formation position. Perhaps a volunteer could take it over. Mother Susan has been picking up many chores that are not her responsibility. It was suggested that a list be made as well as asking the committees to inform us of their needs. The findings can be presented at the May meeting.
- c. Terri Pilarski and Jim Gettel visit March 21-Scott informed the Vestry that at the March 21 meeting he wants each member to vote to go forward with reconciliation with Mother Susan or vote for her resignation. He feels that it is important for us to make the decision now so that we can unify behind the decision and go forward better. Everyone should pray and think about their decision. Some members felt we should talk to the congregation. Katy recommended spreading the word by the chain or a letter instead of meeting with parishioners in small groups during fellowship hour. Scott and Mother Susan will work on that and Scott will contact Terri and Jim. Mother Susan related that it has been very difficult for her. Scott encouraged everyone to try and meet with Mother Susan before the meeting.
- d. Increased visibility-Vestry members are encouraged to attend the 8 am and 4:30 services as well as the 10am. Members will take turns addressing the congregation at the various services, informing them of their committees' functions and inviting them to Vestry meetings.

VI. Consent Calendar

- a. Minutes 1/9/2018-Roy moved that we accept the minutes of January 9, seconded by Justin. Motion passed.
- b. Committee Reports [None]

VII. Old Business

- a. Update on Parish windows-Justin Wojas reported that a few windows that had lost their seals were replaced. A quote is being sought for getting the floors stripped and waxed.
- b. Roster sign-up-The sign-up sheet was sent around. Members signed up for opening prayer and reading, closing the building, and Witness article.

VIII. New Business

- a. Financial Oversight-The Altar Guild has their own checking account. Scott recommended that it be rolled into the church account. Justin moved, seconded by Roy Waters that the Altar Guild account be closed and the money be rolled over into the

