

Vestry Minutes, June 11, 2017, 12:30 pm

Present:

Barbara Brecht, Senior Warden
Kerlin Richter, Rector
Kieran Cannistra
LeRoy Goertz
Madeline Moore
Derek Moyer
Anne Parks

Absent:

Gary Allen, Junior Warden
Karen Dollar, Treasurer
Randy Ericson
Rachel Larsen
Maddy Ouye
Paul Strand

Opening

- Barbara opened the meeting with a prayer at 12:31pm.

Praying the directory

- LeRoy asked how we can intentionally be more closely connected to one another, as a parish.
- Barbara suggested we start by having the Vestry pray the directory. All agreed that this is a good idea, with Madeline noting that we need an updated directory to do so.
- Barbara will speak with Erin about updating the directory and what kind of help she needs to do so.
- We agreed that we'll start with the practice of praying the directory in July.

Consent agenda

- LeRoy moved to accept the May 18 minutes and Derek seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- Madeline moved to accept the June reports and Anne seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial update [Barbara, in Karen's absence]

- We discussed plate being 98% of budget, which is good. Madeline noted that they have been counting plate as plate this year; in years past, some plate contributions were contributed to pledges, when the people who made the contributions were not, in fact, pledgers.
- We discussed pledge amount being 81% of budget, and whether that is because many people catch up with their pledges later in the year. (June, July and August are typically slow months for both plate and pledges.)
- The non-event was again a success; we raised more than we did last year.

- Auction: Jeanne Kaliszewski is coming back to St. David's in July and has agreed to head up with upcoming auction. The date for the auction is Friday, 29 September.

Convention [Kerlin]

- Paul and Kim Strand will represent St. David's at Convention, this year, which takes place 26-28 October. Barbara offered to serve as placeholder in the event there are no other volunteers.
- LeRoy moved to nominate the Strands and Elizabeth as St. David's representatives at Convention. Derek seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Hosford incident and offensive signposts on Division [Kerlin]

- Recently, someone posted on Division Street offensive posters in support of white supremacy. In addition, two adult white men in a truck accosted children at a bus stop, shouting racial slurs.
- Madeline asked how we could reflect on the outside of the building that our church welcomes and is a safe space for all. Barbara noted that this is an issue for a subcommittee and the grounds committee. Kerlin will establish a task force for signage related to this issue; Madeline offered to serve on the task force.

Update on "master plan" proposal [Barbara]

- Barbara will meet with Bishop Michael this week. He has already responded to her letter (in the Vestry packet), noting that we should get at least one additional bid.
- Kerlin has already contacted Green Hammer and will follow up with them.
- Kerlin will also talk to Michael DiBlasi to see if he recommends any other vendors.
- Barbara asked if we're all comfortable tabling *all* roof and building work until we complete work on our mission, vision, master plan, capital campaign planning, etc. All agreed.
- Madeline noted that we need to communicate this to the parish. Kerlin will work with Erin to get an update on the bulletin board in the church and on the web site. Barbara will write an update for eNotes and will prepare the first of many presentations to be made during Sunday services. Derek has agreed to also make a presentation at some point.
- Barbara asked us to discuss the process of creating a mission and vision for St. David's.
- Kieran suggested we return to the metaphor of a tree, since we've done a lot of thinking on it and it's a very accessible metaphor.
- Derek suggested we go back to the Parish Profile that Jeanne Kaliszewski and Amy put together for the rector search, since it's comprehensive and still quite accurate, as a snapshot of who we are.
- Barbara suggested we hire a priest (outside of St. David's) to facilitate the process of writing our mission, vision and strategic plan. Kerlin will explore this idea, and Barbara will ask the Bishop for input when she meets with him.
- Derek offered to look up Holy Cow (no, *really*), an organization that specializes in strategic plans for religious organizations. ("No bull?" ~LeRoy)

Roof update [Barbara]

- Barbara noted that, in the short term, it makes sense to take care of the cupola. In the long term, however, it doesn't make sense to do work on it now, as we might need to do more work as part of the work to improve air circulation.
- The people who cleared out the gutters last year have been rescheduled to work their magic again.

- We will leave open as an option having the cupola fixed (and even reroofing that part of the building) IF we get to a point where we've chosen an architect.

Rector's report, ministry updates, and mission and vision [Kerlin]

- Had a staff meeting a few weeks ago, during which they discussed moving in the fall to two services. Before Kerlin moves on this, she wants to meet with parents to discuss how this impacts the rhythm of Sunday mornings. Kerlin is looking at one service at 9am and one service at 11am, with Godly Play in the middle. To start, the services would be identical; eventually, they will develop their own flavors. We discussed the need for kids between the ages of 7 and 12, as well as adult Christian Formation. Kerlin thinks that, for the time being, all crossover activities will take place between the services.
- Our goal is to hire Erin at 30 hours per week, plus benefits, and Ben at half time. To do this, we need to grow.
- Summer is looking good; we'll have two Gospels in the Grass.
- Kerlin has asked Crystal if she would be willing to be a six-month Junior-Junior Warden, to help Gary as he recovers. We're awaiting a response. (She is a merchant marine and will be in town until December.)

Adjournment

- Derek closed us in prayer. We adjourned at 1:57pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kieran Cannistra, vestry clerk