

## Vestry Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

7:00 pm, Farmer Hall

**Attendees:** Rev. Steven Domienik, Cathy Golden, Margaret Mason, Sue McCann, , Brenda Naegel, Nick Rawlings, Gene Hines, Alan Miller, Lucinda Embersits, Michael Greene

**Absent:** Joan Fislser, Jamie Polk, John Joe Milner

**Parish Members:** Joe Burbela, Dave Karas

Agenda Attached

**Opening Prayer** Steve

**Pre-School Presentation** Steve

Pre-School Director Judy Goldberg resigned. Will stay on to work 8-10 hours a week through January 2014. Staff member Anita will be interim-Director until which time the vestry can discuss and select the direction the school should follow and the director for the program. Decision should be made by school year end.

**Outreach Proposal** Joe Burbela

Father Steve proposed the Annual Bowling Over Hunger fund raiser be a semiannual event. Joe Burbela made a presentation seeking parish outreach support for the event stating the increased use of proposed charity the Madison Food Bank.

**Motion:** that St Andrew's Church offer \$500.00 from the Outreach Fund to the Madison Food Bank and up to an additional \$200.00 to offset the cost of bowler's shoes and lane fees for the next schedule event. (Naegel/Miller)  
Motion Approved

Disaster Support of the Philippines Discussion was held and suggestion approved that a 2<sup>nd</sup> Basket be offered the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent to support the Episcopal Relief funds efforts to help the Philippines in light of the Typhoon Haiyan disaster.

Approval of Past Vestry Meeting Minutes. A review was help of the minutes from vestry meetings held on October 15, 2013, October 20, 2013 and October 22, 2013. Changes where suggested.

**Motion:** To approve the following Vestry meetings October 15, 2013, October 20, 2013 and October 22, 2013 (Naegel/McCann) Motion Approved

**Vestry Member Resignation** Nick Rawlings

Vestry Clerk Nick Rawlings resigned. Letter attached. A discussion was held to discuss impact of current vestry resignations (Parish Warden resigned November 7, 2013). Note was also made that the previous resignation of a vestry member as announce by the Priest-in-Charge was rescinded.

**Treasurer's Report** Cathy

(see attached) \$6,800.00 deficit for the month of October. Pledges are \$21, 000.00 less than budgeted. Money was saved in operational expenses to levy only a \$14,000.00 YTD loss.

**Motion:** To approve the Treasurer's Report (Miller/Embersits) Approved

## **Worship Times**

Steve

Due to conflicts with the timing of getting choir members singing in the 8:30 service rehearsed with the additional choir members of the 10:00 service and insufficient time for 8:30 acolytes to attend church school services between the two services. Steve suggested moving services to 10:30am and some vestry members suggested trying the 10:30 service from January 2014 through June 2014 and reassess the situation at that time. This change will be announced to the parish immediately.

## **Pledge Cards/Budgeting**

Steve

The pledge cards collected on Stewardship Sunday were kept in a sealed envelope in the parish safe and not opened in order for the vestry to consider the announced plan to follow a "Faith Based Pledging" in which cards were collected, not reviewed and burned in honor of the process. Vestry decided that they would uphold the promise of the commitment to the Faith Based Budgeting process. Cards will ceremonially be burned during an upcoming service.

## **Nominating Committee**

Sue

Kathy Golden was selected by the vestry to replace Geoff Gregory on the nominating committee due to Geoff's resignation. A Nominating Committee Meeting was called for the next Monday evening. A vestry member asked if the Priest-in-Charge had released his names for his chosen Executive Committee. Priest-in-Charge stated he had not made his selections yet.

## **Next Steps in the Healing Process**

Steve

Consensus Building – Discussion was held to consider whether the Vestry should move to the Consensus Method of Voting. Under this method a vote can be taken in which vestry member could vote "Thumbs Up" in which they are in support of the motion, "Thumbs Neutral" (sideways) in which they were not in support of the motion but could be supportive of the decision to move forward and "Thumbs Down" in which the vestry member needed more time to consider the motion and talk thought support or alternative. Motions voted unanimously in any combination of the "Up" or "Neutral" position would pass and any particular "Down" vote would allow the vestry to select either more time to discuss the motion or to table the motion for possible future reconsideration. Some vestry members thought this would bring people into discussion and not allow anyone to feel isolated from the discussion. This would be a positive way to build common ground, demonstrate united leadership and a movement towards healing.

**Motion:** To hold all future Vestry Votes between this particular vote and at which time the new Rector is called and presented to the Parish in the aforementioned *Consensus Style*. (Naegel/Greene) Consensus Achieved

## **Executive Committee Changes:**

Steve

The vestry discussed and proposed the following changes to the Executive Committee as allowed by the by-laws.

1. No executive committee meetings with the Rector to pre-discuss/decide vestry responsibilities
2. Agenda items by any vestry member can be submitted to the clerk prior to any vestry meeting and placed on the agenda.
3. Vestry will assign responsibilities recently focused on or considered by the executive committee to "special committees" made up of interested vestry members at large.

**Motion:** To make the above discussed changes to the Executive Committee structure (Mason/ Embersits) Consensus Achieved

**Listening Opportunities**

Steve

Vestry discussed new and improved ways for listening opportunities to be created. Priest-In-Charge had notes from a private meeting he recently attended at a vestry member's house in which a collection of families who felt disenfranchised over the recent *Young Life Motion* spoke to their concerns about this motion and other parish related matters. These notes will be supplied to the Vestry prior to the next scheduled meeting.

**Next Meeting** December meeting will be on December 10, 2013

**Closing Prayer**

Steve

**Motion to Adjourn:** (Greene/ Hines) Consensus Achieved