

July 16, 2019
Vestry Minutes
7:05 p.m.

Present: Father Patrick, Deb Lamb (Senior Warden), Joe Barbercheck (Treasurer), Yvonne Amanor-Boadu (Clerk), Marian Fuller, Phil Ryan, Mary Vanier, Landon Leiker, Katie Dempsey, Betsy Barrett and Rebecca Burton (Secretary)

Absent: Candie White

Deb Lamb led the worship with a prayer. Moved on to Dwelling in the Word, Luke 10.1-12 with members pairing off to share if they had different personal revelations from the reading this time. Their next step was to reflect on this experience throughout the week.

June 18 Vestry minutes were reviewed. Phil moved to approve it as is. Joe seconded it. All approved, unanimously.

Then the group broke into Subcommittees.

Administration:

Phil gave the report of the subcommittee.

He recommended, following review of the finance committee and rector, that parishioners, Bria Taddiken-Williams, Art Loub and Larie Schoap be appointed to serve on the Endowment Committee. The new Endowment resolution requires an odd number of at least three non-vestry members to serve on that committee. Larie Schoap can only serve for six months with her term ending in January 2020, because of her commitments to the Chamber of Commerce. Bria and Art will serve for two years, with their terms ending January 2021. The first meeting is scheduled for August 1st, 2019. New appointments should happen each January.

Joe also gave a quick synopsis of the Finance Committee meeting which included looking at the 2020 budget. The suggestion was made to look at the historic pledging and a concern of how to communicate the operating needs to the congregation.

The opportunity for online website-based giving was brought by Father Patrick. Two families use ACH transfer to pay pledges, several more use an Online Bill Pay through their bank (which sends the church paper checks). Fr. Patrick submitted a report with the recommendation to include a button on the website using the software provided by *Stripe* and *Donorbox*. The subcommittee supported the recommendation. Fr. Patrick and Deacon Charles will work on incorporating this onto the website. This will be monitored by the Finance committee who will make recommendations if a software/platform change is needed (from a cost/benefit perspective).

A summary of the July 10-11 audit testing day was shared. The day went smoothly with a few recommendations to improve the efficiency and transparency of the processes. The formal report is expected to be out by the September Vestry meeting.

The new Church Insurance policy goes into effect in August. An agent will present it on August 20, 2019. Issues that will be addressed are Cyber liability, Malicious Attack, Building and Grounds and employment.

There were some questions about the Happy Kitchen's income were also addressed. Father Patrick shared the details of the various sources of income for the Happy Kitchen which is primarily sourced from donations by different organizations like the Encore Shop, Seven Dolores, the Dillons Rewards Program, etc.

Phil moved that the group accept the findings of the Administration subcommittee. Joe seconded. All approved.

Building & Grounds

Landon briefed the vestry. It was recommended by the group that the Hackberry tree on the northeast of the Encore Shop be removed. This will avoid possible future damage to the church property and/or other structures due to the aging tree. This decision was made after receiving information that the tree has a history of falling limbs during extreme weather and also has the possibility of the presence of decay/rotting on the inside of the tree (St. Paul's has lost two hackberries in the last five years to this process). Phil Ryan also pointed out the possible liability issue by leaving the tree as is. There were bids submitted by two tree removal services; one from Wildcat Tree Service and another by Two Big Feet. Since, Mr. William's bid was slightly higher, the vestry voted to give him the opportunity to match the bid from Wildcat Tree service, as he has already performed services for the church in the past. Tom and Teresa Snyder will be consulted for landscaping options to replace the tree.

The topic of forming a Buildings & Grounds committee was briefly discussed. The vestry will continue to have conversations with likely parishioners to recruit members. Landon moved to accept the decision of the subcommittee. Betsy seconded. It was approved unanimously.

Mission /Ministry

Yvonne presented for the group. The Fall Kick-off was set for Sunday, August 25, 2019. It will also be presented as an Ice Cream Social Back-to School event with a blessing of the backpacks. The mission/Ministry committee would also like to encourage donations to the school district's FIT Closet. Information about Adult Education, Children's Chapel and classes at BKSM will be provided.

Using *Illustrated Children's Ministry* as a resource, Father Patrick shared a possible theme, **"Blessed to be a Blessing"**, for backpack tags. These would be given at the kick-off. It was enthusiastically welcomed by the group. An ice cream social will be held after church services. Betsy informed the group, that the one of the Hospitality groups would host the event.

The Ministry Fair will provide information of the different ministries that St. Paul's offers to the parish. Betsy Barrett proposed the church initiate a Women's bible study group. It was suggested that pies baked by Tiffany Oppelt will be given as prize giveaways. Father Patrick settle on a date and will coordinate with Tiffany. Joe moved that the information provided by

the Mission/Ministry committee by accepted as is. Katie Dempsey seconded. It was approved unanimously.

Rectors Report

Father Patrick informed the vestry that, now that tickets for his 10th Anniversary trip to Portland and Seattle have been purchased, he will be at church for the services on August 18 & 25. These services had formerly been covered by Don Compier.

Father Patrick reported on his Continuing Education program in Minnesota. In addition to the previously-discussed movement on online-give, he has plans to re-invigorate a planned giving program as a final project for the Education. This will be a part of the Stewardship campaign.

Bishop Bascom will be here to celebrate the service on September 29th, 2019 when she will bless the church to mark the end of the Capital Campaign. At the service, Tom Snyder will present a plaque made out of piece of recovered wood with every donor's name included on it.

Fr. Patrick moved the conversation to the discussion of the 2020 Vision.

Goals/Vision for 2020

Yvonne reminded the group that the previous meeting included discussion of inclusion of microgrants in the 2020 budget to empower individual members to pursue outward-focused mission (Outreach). The microgrants process could also be earmarked to empower inward-focused spiritual and community development (In-reach). Plans for a paid section leader program with K-State Students were also part of previous discussion.

In-reach connects spiritually with God and in church neighbors. Loving in God includes opportunities like Children's Chapel, and Choir enrichment while Loving out is going into the neighborhood, listening, learning and being hosted. Fr. Patrick provided visualization of how In-Reach and Out-Reach feed each other and a 2020 vision that supported both was necessary and good. The vestry discussed the vision and its strengths and weaknesses, affirmative support was broad. The Vestry thinks the parish is ready/willing/able to carry out the vision and is excited for it. Betsy and Phil specifically talked about how the process of vestry formation and visioning had helped to move them into thinking that "Loving Out" is possible.

Father Patrick reported on some brainstorming he and David Littrell have done for the annual giving campaign. He connected some dots about how this might connect with choir and microgrant budget priorities. The stewardship theme of "**Blessed to be a Blessing**" might work well.

Father then invited members of the vestry, to help him draft a 2020 Stewardship letter for Annual Giving. Landon volunteered to help with Mary and Betsy offering their editing skills.

Father reminded everyone that the Grant Application through the Choral Scholar Program would be pay for student section leaders with matching grants from the Diocese, are due at the end of August.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 13.

Meeting ended with prayer at 8:58 p.m.