

St. John's Vestry Meeting
November 6, 2018, 7:00PM

In Attendance: Fr. Jim Wheeler, Fr. Sandy Key, Melody Wagstaff, Danielle Sullivan, Olive Grant, Terrence Green, Beth Ford, Aldrich Wright, Bill Schwartz, Chris Mehan, Anne Mavor

Opening Prayer

Formation

- Coffee hour at the Commons, Bishop Douglas and the New Missional Age (audio podcast)

Information

Notes from October 2, 2018 Vestry Meeting

- N/A; no quorum, not an official meeting

Report from Sandra on this Year's Christmas Show

- Sandra participated via telephone
- tomorrow Sandra will provide a memo with rehearsals; waiting to hear back from L'Epiphanie if they will be involved; Betania is on board; Maddie and Liz working on screen to include John Svagr and Lester
- update on casting; working on dates for costume fittings
- reception-seeking donations for cookies and cake and decorations;
- boy scouts luncheon
- train museum set to be open for function;
- Dante working on posters, mentioning all three congregations

Report about our mission partner priest, Fr. Andre Wildaine report from Sheelagh Schlegel

- issues with Bishop Duracin and his exit; Bishop Ian discussed the accusations against Bishop Duracin with Gus, Sheelagh and Father Jim
- Father Wildaine was part of a group who wrote a letter in protest of Bishop Duracin stating that the election for a new bishop was tainted because Bishop Duracin allegedly ordained new clergy to help choose his candidate right before the election
- In retaliation, the Bishop has inhibited Father Wildaine from acting as a priest for a year and withholding his salary
- Bon Samaritan has written to the Bishop say that they would refuse to accept a new priest and until his reinstatement, they will not be sending any money to the Bishop
- In the meantime, we are still supporting the school and the clinic; lay officers in the parish have access to accounts to help pay the teacher salaries and the lunch program
- Continuing with business as usual but wanted to provide the Vestry with an update

- Question: is there a specific person in that parish who oversees the finances?
 - yes, the Vestry

Operations Report by Sharon Guinta

- provided via email
- roofing is scheduled to finish this week; may be delayed to next week due to rain
- laser smoke detectors are done
- need to enter into a contract with Master Roofers for maintenance of gutters and roof

Hiring of new Interim Parish Administrator

- Liz Spiro, on the job approximately three weeks now; finding that there is a lot to this job; overachiever, hard worker but there is still a lot to learn
- working about 32 hours a week, 5 days a week; approximately about the same amount as Sandie
- decision re pursuing full time parish administrator to be decided next year

Update on New Consecration Sunday by Father Sandy and Anne Mavor

- team: Father Sandy, Anne Mavor & Jon Saunders
- circulated letter to Vestry members re dinner at Saint John's on November 12th at 6PM
- Sunday's sermon will be a presentation on stewardship for oneself
- handout: "A Revealing Breakdown of Our Congregation's Giving Patterns"
 - goal" move towards biblically standard practice
 - Vestry to be a part of practical side of conversation
- need for Vestry to get parishioners to come to church on Consecration Sunday and to the lunch
- discussion re expense for lunch; not to affect operations budget drastically
- effect of personal invitations
- guest speaker for Consecration Sunday discussed

Rental Committee Update by Melody Wagstaff

- Dante asked for a meeting w facilities committee, continued problems with evening parties; ran over time, lots of alcohol, rule breaking
- party evening rental is a small portion of overall income, bulk comes from ongoing groups that use facilities; minor issues but things run clean and neat
- proposing that we exit the party business, something we can revisit at another date; too hard for Dante to get ready for Sundays, significant liability, even with liability bond and insurance
- suggestion to leave the evening party business, open for all other events, meetings welcome
- shut down evening party business for 6months, maybe revisit;
 - whether there needs to be an increased charge or a security person monitoring alcohol consumption
- Melody willing to put together proposals in long run;

- Now-not worth the money for the liability; would rather pursue other income opportunities
- discussion re how to communicate to congregation: right now we have 1 or 2 commitments, we will honor those, who ever signed contract; let congregation know we are out of the business

Nominating Committee Update

- Chris Mehan, Danielle Sullivan, Melody Wagstaff and Aldrich Wright to meet at end of meeting
- Terrence to provide names of potential nominees

Treasurer Update by Chris Mehan

- discussed meeting with Jane; year isn't going to be great, in the red; hopefully not as bad as we anticipated in the beginning of year
- trying to get everything out more on the table; some items were not in the budget
- Unknowns: 2 month hiatus following Father Jim's departure; travel expenses?;
- issue: auditor failed to contact us or conduct audit for this year; Chris approached a local accountant re church audits, price to be determined
- Chris getting October numbers this week
- Open to ideas re budget

Decisions

Regularize Unanimous Vote by Email Approving \$50,000 for Roofing Repairs

- 3 separate pieces, already done 2 of 3, finishing 3rd
- \$45,000 job, \$5,000 contingency
- Motion to Approve, seconded
 - All in favor, no opposition
 - No discussion
 - Approved

Regularize Decision by Executive Committee to Enter into a Contract with Master Roofing and Restoration to maintain roof and gutter

- handout provided
- \$2,000 contract, within the \$50,000 for roofing repairs with contingency that was approved
- Motion to Approve, seconded
 - No discussion
 - All in Favor, no opposition

Discussion

Request for Dr. Sean Jackson to accompany musicians at the Stephen Clapp Memorial concert on January 20, 2019

- request made by the musician who is performing at the concert;
- Sean has been granted approval to attend these events in the past
- discussion re legal status
- Motion to Approve Dr. Sean Jackson to accompany musicians at the concert, seconded
 - 3 abstained from voting
 - Approved

Invitation to participate in joint Lenten series with St. John's Lutheran and St. Francis Episcopal in 2019 by Father Sandy

- Saint John's Lutheran involved in a Lenten program for several years now; would like to consider it
- idea Tues or Wed evening; 6-6:30 soup; 6:30-7:00 sharing or bible study (changes weekly), 7:00 service, evening prayer, done by 7:30PM;
- family time or adults?: little bit of both
- still can do Tuesdays w Sandy-in addition to or in lieu of
- location: vary between churches; alternates during lent;
- Anne stated she would like to see something children friendly during that time

Coffee Hour Promotion

- question: how can we help support Paula so she doesn't feel stuck with it; issues with budgeting; how to get everyone involved;
- Father Key provided an example in other parish: one vestry member per Sunday a month; Vestry member would recruit people to help; ask a different committee for a different Sunday of the month
- discussed having an individual in charge of food: serve or freeze
- Olive stated she would get a group of women to help her, had a committee; rotate, get people to sign up, get stuff to use as fall back; group helps set up and clean up; every 3 months kitchen is cleaned; group of 8;
- suggested basket people can drop donations
- budget issues; suggestion re purchasing plates, etc. on Amazon at lower price

Transition Discussion

- Father Jim left meeting at this point; Vestry went into Executive Session

Closing Prayers

Next Meeting Tuesday December 4, 2018, 7:00 p.m.