

St. Stephen's Vestry Minutes

June 10 2019

Attendees: Scott Armstrong, Pat Wojas, Dave Eldon, Corinne Fragnoli, Karol Sprague, Jackie Ingersoll, Dave Stein, Ken Fuhr, Kathy DeCiantis, Justin Wojas, Miranda Spates, Alan Giles, the Rev Sharon Voelker, Finance Committee Chairperson-Don Ingersoll, Phil Pierce--Treasurer, Guest-Sathi Satyanathan

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. Approval of Agenda-Consent Calendar

III. Opening Prayer & Scripture-Karol said an opening prayer.

IV. Senior Warden's Report-Scott reported he visited John Thunder in both the hospital and then in the rehab facility. He spoke to Liz Sinkovich concerning her mother's death (Mary Boldt) and funeral June 15. He held a Town Hall meeting on May 19 and helped celebrate the Rev Sharon Voelker becoming our long-term supply priest.

V. Mission Focus-Strategic Planning

a. SPOC committee update-The committee is analyzing and organizing the input from the Holy Conversations. It will be touching base with segments of the congregation that were under represented, such as housebound folks and younger parishioners. Some ideas can be considered for immediate implementation. These will be presented to the Vestry to start that process. They will tend to be improvements to how we do things operationally and for current members. While they will be useful and positive, they are not major changes that would be expected to change our membership trend. The bigger ideas that could change the trend will need much more exploration and will likely need teams to work on them. They will not be trivial and may have significant added costs. The parish profile also needs to be amended to reflect what we are doing so the Bishop and potential candidates know what our vision for St. Stephen's is, and what we are looking for in a priest.

Scott requested that the committee bring its results to the Vestry when it is done. One member of the committee should be seen as the voice of the committee to the congregation. And, any communication from the committee to the parishioners should be done at all three services.

The length of the Peace came up several times during the Holy Conversations. It was decided that Rev Sharon will not come down into the audience and a notice in the bulletin will encourage parishioners to share the peace for about 2 minutes before regaining their seats.

b. Sale of Property Idea-Several parishioners have shared their concerns with Vestry members. Many thought the decision was rushed and that other options weren't considered.

Some parishioners don't realize that although our present situation is all right, mainly because we do not have a full time rector, the longtime projection does not look good. Scott told the Vestry that whatever decision is made has to be a business decision not an emotional one. Dave Stein is establishing and will head a committee to look into the options and details for turning our property into a cash asset to help enable our efforts to turn around our membership trend before it is too late. One of its mandates will be to brainstorm and otherwise explore to see if other viable alternatives to selling the property exist. Several parishioners have volunteered to be on this committee.

VI. Consent Calendar

- a. Minutes from previous meeting-Sent by email
- b. Committee Reports-none received

VII. Old Business:

- a. No items removed from consent agenda
- b. Treasurer's Report- Although the Treasurer's report is posted on a board for parishioners to look at, it was felt that most people do not look at it. It was suggested that we publish the revenues in the bulletin once a month. Therefore, parishioners can see where we are with our giving. Justin Wojas moved that each month, following the Vestry meeting, the year-to-date actual and budgeted revenues be shown in the bulletin along with the variance. Dave Stein seconded the motion. The motion passed.

VII. New Business:

- a. B & G report-Tabled until the next meeting
- b. Tiny Tunes contract-They have been paying a low amount and should have their own insurance. It was decided not to renew their contract. If they buy their own insurance and can pay more rent, their contract with us may be reconsidered.

IX. Coming Events:

- St. John's Food Pantry-July 13
- Youth Pilgrimage/Mission Trip-June 15-21

X. Closing prayer and Adjournment-Scott closed the meeting with a prayer at 9:20 p.m. Next meeting July 8 at Karol Sprague's at 6pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jackie Ingersoll, Clerk