

St. Stephens Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes

June 12, 2017

In attendance: Mother Susan, Katy Allen, Scott Armstrong, Alan Giles, Jackie Ingersoll, Richard Kenefic, Rob Redmer, Paula Somerville, Karol Sprague and Justin Wojas Absent: Alice Moss, Norma Ross, Roy Walters

The monthly Vestry meeting of St Stephens Episcopal Church, held on June 12, was called to order by the Junior Warden, Rob Redmer at 7:05PM. Paula gave the opening prayer. Mother Susan led a short lesson with a scripture reading from Luke and vestry members reflected on the passage.

I. Rector's report: New staff members are on board and settling in well. Elana MacKenzie is meeting parishioners and working with Ken Fuhr on software. Pam Bonkowski, our new bookkeeper is working two days a week. Caleb Sinclair, the new choir master, began Sunday the 11. He is waiting to find a full time teaching job in the area. Concern was expressed that he will not find a position close by and leave before school starts.

Rector asked that we consider reducing Ken Fuhr's pay grade and continue his 20 hour work schedule. This will keep us in budget and allow Ken enough hours to qualify for a 403B and other benefits. This plan was accepted.

Teri Pilarski will begin meeting with the vestry this summer. A mutually agreed date of July 19 was chosen. Adrian Gross's son, Jeffrey passed away. The funeral is Saturday, June 17. Because of Roy Walter's accident there is an immediate need to fill some of his many duties. Vestry members will take some of these roles including the Gross funeral.

II. Regular business:

- A. Consent calendar: Motion was made and passed to accept May minutes. It was moved and passed to accept CEC (Covenant Evaluation Committee) Performance Evaluation of the Rector.
- B. The financial report was received.
- C. Katy reported on her interaction with outreach groups. She is encouraging groups to be open to sharing our mission goal/ project. Richard informed us that Don Ingersoll has been asked to join the Endowment Committee and asked the Vestry's approval. Endowment committee members must be approved by the Vestry. Vestry approved. The SOS committee would like to keep the church open to guests from Friday night to Sunday after services. Scott explained that

guests find it hard to find shelter on Saturdays because the SOS office in Southfield is closed. Scott asks that a vestry link be added to our web page.

- D. Schedules: Closing the Church schedule was reviewed. Assignments for *The Witness* articles were reviewed. Monthly Witness article should be emailed to Liz Sinkovich one week before the first day of the month.

III. Strategic/Mission Focus:

- A. The Strategic Planning Oversight Committee will meet on July 25th, 7:00 PM at the church to select a chair and map out a plan. Implementation goal is to have the committee selected by September.
- B. Reconcile and Reconnect Counseling: Members chose first meeting date of July 19th, 7:00PM. They will discuss funding. Mother Susan suggests setting up the fund under Vestry Project and asked the Vestry to contribute \$100.00 each to start the process. She estimates that the cost will be \$2500.00. Discussion followed. Richard stated that it was the vestry that was seeking counseling and that the vestry should support that decision financially. No motion was made and further discussion was tabled.

IV. Coming events: Vestry picnic will be held at Alice Moss's home on August 27 in the afternoon. It is pot luck. Jackie asked for prayers for the two youth outings: The J2A Urban Adventure in Chicago on June 16th to 18th and the YAC's mission trip to West Virginia and Washington DC.

Closing prayer with given by Susan. Meeting was adjourned at 8:45.

Karol Sprague, Clerk