



# Christ Church Grosse Pointe



## Minutes of the Vestry

April 21, 2008

**Present:** Heather Albrecht, Richard Beadle, Mike DeFillipi, David Dieter, Lisa Flores, Ted Hagan, Scott Hanoian, Joe Katulic, Susan Larsen, Joe Maycock, Theresa Muzzi, Pat O'Brien, Carrie Sutton, Don Sweeny, Al Torp, John Van Osdol, Jeff vonSchwarz

**Absent:** Libby Candler, Betsy Creedon, Brad Whitaker

**Guests:** Peggy Beadle, Alex Johnson, Doreen Kohr, David McCoy, Blair Osborn

### I. Opening Prayer

Mike DeFillipi said the opening prayer.

### II. Parishioner Comments - No report

### III. Small Group Sharing

It was recommended that vestry dispense with the small group sharing for the evening.

### IV. Opening Matters

*Announcements:* No report.

*Wardens' Comments:* Joe Maycock reported that Betsy went to Georgia, as a representative of Christ Church, for the funeral of Brad's mother.

- Joe relayed to the vestry that Brad was very appreciative of the flowers that were sent. Please contribute \$10 each for the cost of the flowers to Betsy.

A committee of Tim Bledsoe, Hadley French and Kit Tennyson was appointed to look at the problem that exists concerning the Annual Meeting and vestry elections being held at a time when many people are away. This group has met and they are considering whether it would be possible to move up vestry elections to November when there are fewer people traveling; they are also looking into the balloting process. A suggestion was made that when four people are elected, and only one slot needs to be filled, that only two people would be eligible for election on the second ballot, therefore, having fewer ballots in that situation. This would require several steps canonically and the congregation would probably have to vote on it because a change such as this would affect the by-laws.

It was recommended that the committee make a presentation to the vestry before they approach the congregation.

*Pastoral Concerns:* David Dieter reported that John Albrecht is out of intensive care; Frannie Book had surgery; information was shared regarding Sarah Hill. Please keep these and others in your prayers.

*Correspondence:* No report.

**V. Approval of the March 17, 2008 Vestry Minutes**

The minutes were approved as circulated.

**VI. New Business**

*A. Consent Agenda*

*1. Antiques Show Liquor License*

Pat O'Brien read the following resolution: *That the organization through its duly authorized officers make application for a special license for the sale of either beer and wine, or beer, wine and spirits for the consumption on the premises to be in effect on the following day-May 29, 2008, Antiques Show Preview Party.*

Al Torp moved that the Vestry of Christ Church Grosse Pointe adopt the above mentioned resolution for a liquor license for the Antiques Show Preview Party on May 29, 2008. John Van Osdol seconded the motion; all approved.

*2. Thank you for Antiques Show Page*

Pat O'Brien read a thank you note from Scottie Knight and Nancy Osborn for vestry support in underwriting a page in the Antiques Show catalog.

*3. Jean Redfield – appoint as Treasurer*

Dick Beadle moved that the Vestry of Christ Church Grosse Pointe elect Jean Redfield as Treasurer. Heather Albrecht seconded the motion; all approved.

*Proposed Diocese Resolution:* Dick Beadle distributed a letter, written by Tim Bledsoe, concerning the relocation of the diocesan offices. Please read this letter over so it can be discussed at the next vestry meeting.

*Stewardship Dialogue:* John Van Osdol stated that the Christ Church First committee has been working very hard to evolve the giving culture at Christ Church. The committee has experienced some frustrations over the past years along with some successes, such as raising the pledge amounts. They are very concerned that they are not getting the kind of traction they were looking for in terms of changing the giving culture. The group experienced an epiphany and they would like to take the vestry down that pathway and also have the vestry participate in some of the contemplation the committee went through. Over the years the committee has tried to keep stewardship as an ongoing conversation with the parish.

John gave a PowerPoint presentation (hard copy was distributed) and then vestry broke up into small groups to discuss – What does Christ Church mean to you? What are you searching for in life? What is Christ Church's role in your search?

After the groups met they shared their various thoughts and themes that came out of their group dialogue. John went on to explain that the vestry and CCF need to have this type of conversation with others. When it comes to giving it has to come down to one's closer relationship with God and people need to understand what that relationship is. Church cannot become consumer focused.

Peggy Beadle presented a question to the vestry: *How can CCF enlist this vestry to join us in what we have said we believe that it is not about the budget but what this church means to us, what spiritual journey each one of us is on, and finally, how does this church walk with us?*

It will be easy to have this conversation with the top 20% of givers because they are already there. The committee would like to see this ultimately grow throughout the parish. It is necessary to have people feel and express gratitude for what they have been given from God. They should give out of the gratitude they feel toward God.

CCF would like the backing of the vestry and they would like the vestry to affirm their new focus. They will come to the May vestry meeting to get things going so it can be presented to the parish. And the vestry statement on stewardship will be rewritten to be more reflective of CCF's new focus so it can also be projected out to the parish.

John also stressed the importance of thanking people more often for their contributions whether it's time, talent or treasure. In addition, it is important to set giving expectations with new members in regards to time, talent and treasure.

## **VII. Old Business**

*Treasurer's Report:* Theresa Muzzi gave a brief overview of the report as of the end of March.

- Pledges are down but the dollars are up; we exceeded the amount budgeted by \$7,000.
- On additional pledges of 100 for 100 we have 32 amounting to \$10,800.
- Income year-to-date shows a positive variance of \$8,951 because Gifts and Greens doubled the amount they gave to the church this year.
- Expenses show a positive variance.
- Vestry will receive quarterly the Special & Endowment Fund Balances. Pat O'Brien requested that a list of how funds were spent also be submitted with this report.

*Housing Policy:* Per Betsy's request the Housing Policy will be deferred until the May meeting.

## **VIII. Parish Ministries Reports**

*Parish Resources Ministries:* Don Sweeny thanked everyone who participated in Crossroads. He would like to see CC work more Sundays at Crossroads.

*Parish Christian Formation Ministries:* Lisa Flores reported that the search for a Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministry is in full swing. The committee is about to extend invitations to two candidates to do site visits. She is optimistic they will have someone here by September 1.

*Parish Outreach Ministries:* No report.

*Parish Life Ministries:* No report.

*Parish Life and Worship Ministries:* Pat O'Brien reminded vestry that the Antiques Show is fast approaching. Please volunteer to work a shift.

- Worship Council meeting is scheduled to meet on May 3 at 8:30 am.
- Scott Hanoian informed the vestry about the Vocal Music Camp coming up in June and July. Boys (grades 3-5) and girls (grades 5-7) throughout the community will be invited to attend.

*Parish Pastoral Care Ministries:* No report.

## **IX. Vestry Comments and Conversation**

## **X. Closing Prayer**

Don Sweeny said the closing prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Yntema-Gruner  
Recording Secretary

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