



Christ Church Grosse Pointe



Minutes of the Vestry

March 15, 2010

Present: Peggy Beadle, Libby Candler, Lisa Flores, Ted Hagan, Scott Hanoian, Chris Harrison, Hope Hoffman, David Jones, Joe Katulic, Paula Labadie, Mark Lorenger, David McCoy, Theresa Muzzi, Wendy Niven, Jean Redfield, Amie Sweeney, Brad Whitaker, John Woodhouse

Absent: Denise Crenshaw, Jeff vonSchwarz

I. Opening Prayer

Brad began the meeting by having everyone say briefly how God is in their lives.

II. Parishioners' Comments

III. Opening Matters

Announcements: Please keep Lois Mack and her family in your prayers. Her funeral will be a private committal.

- Tuesdays Together Purple Perspective, The Very Rev. Tracey Lind, a leader in the church, will be our speaker this week.
- Holy Week is a building momentum going into Easter. Please plan to attend as many of the services as you can. The Prayer Vigil is after the Maundy Thursday service.

Wardens' Comments: Libby Candler mentioned that David Dieter is in the process of writing a grant request for Pointers Sustained. In the grant request they ask who members of the board are, and that would be the vestry.

Pastoral Concerns: Curl Tutag is still homebound and the clergy visits her and others regularly.

Correspondence: David McCoy sent out thank you notes to two employees for their ten year anniversary thanking them for their years of service.

IV. Approval of the Minutes for January 11, 2010

The minutes were approved as circulated.

V. New Business (Brad shifted the items around starting with the Liquor Licenses and added the e-mail request for the Antiques Show ad)

Liquor Licenses: Mark Lorenger reported that he had a request for two liquor licenses – Relay for Life Wine Tasting on April 22 and the Antiques Show Preview Party on June 3.

Mark Lorenger moved that the Vestry of Christ Church Grosse Pointe approve the liquor licenses for the Relay for Life Wine Tasting event on April 22, 2010 and the Antiques Show Preview Party on June 3, 2010. The motion was seconded and approved by all.

Parochial Report 2009: Brad stated that the Parochial Report is done yearly and sent to the National Church and the Diocese; he reviewed the report with the vestry.

The Vestry of Christ Church Grosse Pointe moved that the Parochial Report be approved as submitted. The motion was seconded and approved by all.

Brad referred to one of the stipulations in his Letter of Agreement that states that the vestry and he will do a mutual ministry review. It has been eight years and a mutual review has not been formalized. Brad would like to move forward with this review as this will be a way to measure, as mutual ministry leaders, how the rector, the vestry and staff look at what specific things we are trying to accomplish, measuring ourselves in how we did, and what can be done better next year. The format will be worked out with the wardens. Over the past several years, the vestry has focused on what needs to be talked about to grow as a parish. Minor goals will need to be set.

The vestry packets contained the following information which Brad reviewed with the vestry: Long Range Plan Goals, the rector's Vision, Vestry Ministry Priorities for 2009-2011, and Moving Forward presentation.

Brad distributed a graph, *Number of Records*, which shows the ages of parish members. There are a large number of people that we do not have their ages and, most likely, other pertinent information for church records. The next graph shows the number of people that joined between 1996 and 2010 in a six year period between 1991 and 2008. The bar graph comes from the Parochial Report and shows baptized members, worship attendance, plate/pledge giving, and pledges. The average worship attendance has been basically flat for the past few years. In plate and pledge offerings since 2003 there has been a slight increase over the years. Number of pledges has basically been flat with a slight dip going down.

The Life Cycle and Reshaping Options for a Congregation (Attachment A) was distributed. Brad explained that this graph shows that there is a life cycle to who we are as a parish. We're given birth, we have a formation (grow), we go into a stability phase followed by a decline and death if attention is not awarded. In the stability phase the vestry must pay attention to markers about the health of the parish, redefinition of the church, redeveloping the church, and rebirth of the church. Within the church the stability phase will last no more than about five years. So it is necessary to pay attention to who we are as a parish so as not to encounter a decline.

Brad had the vestry break off into groups to discuss where they see the church on this graph – rebirth, redevelopment, or redefinition. Secondly, they were to answer the question, “What is our next step as leaders?”

It was the consensus of the various groups that Christ Church is in between decline and stability but leaning toward a redefinition.

- We need to know who we are as a parish.
- A suggestion was made that the directory be purged of inactive members.
- Vestry must go back to the chairs of their committees and have them set goals.

Budget Discussion re. Christian Formation: There was discussion about whether we can go forward and hire a full-time Christian Formation person. The part-time position was to be for Children and Family Ministry; full-time is for Children, Youth and Family Ministry. Discussion continued concerning how the position

would be funded and going forward and hiring for a full-time position and committing to a three to five year contract.

David Jones moved that the Vestry of Christ Church Grosse Pointe move the Finance Committee to formulate a way the vestry can move forward to hire a full-time Christian Formation person. John Woodhouse seconded the motion; all approved.

Move Vestry Meetings to Saturday: This issue was brought up because Mondays can be long days for some members. Coming in on Saturday morning members would be fresh and ready to discuss the issues before them. Concern was expressed about weekend travel and family time.

The Vestry of Christ Church Grosse Pointe moved that the vestry meetings for April, May and June be held on the third Saturday of the month at 8 am. The vestry approved with three dissents.

VI. Old Business

Treasurer's Report: No report.

Vestry Behavioral Covenant: Brad requested that the vestry adopt the covenant.

The Vestry of Christ Church Grosse Pointe adopted the Vestry Covenant dated February 2010. All approved.

Antiques Show Ad (added to agenda): Libby Candler explained that for an e-mail vote to pass you must have 100% acceptance. We have had two e-mail votes. The first for the Estate Sale Liquor License which passed and the second for the Antiques Show Vestry Ad which did not pass because we had a no vote. Paula Labadie explained the reason for her "no" vote.

Paula Labadie moved that the Vestry of Christ Church Grosse Pointe be allowed to revote (in person) on the Antiques Show Vestry page ad. Mark Lorenger seconded the motion; all approved.

The Vestry of Christ Church Grosse Pointe approved a Vestry page in the Antiques Show Catalogue. The motion was seconded and approved by all.

VII. Parish Ministries Reports

Jean Redfield reported that the disbursing of the funds for Gifts and Greens will happen this Sunday.

VIII. General Comments

Brad re-clarified that by state law e-mail votes for not for profit organizations must have 100% approval. The reason is because there is no opportunity for discussion.

IX. Closing Prayer

Ted Hagan said the closing prayer.

X. Executive Session

An executive session did not convene. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kay Yntema-Gruner - Recording Secretary

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