



Vestry Minutes 1 May 2017

Attendees:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kienbaum, Karen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Creedon, Betsy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hix, Mike (Secretary)*
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Van Culin, Andrew	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ash, Eric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Baruah, Lisa
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Boeckler, Lori	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bowe, Sarah	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fitzgerald, Colleen
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gaskin, David	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Iannace, Lynette	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nealssohn, Thom
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Osborn, Blair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Redfield, David	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sutton, George
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Walsh, Brendan	<input type="checkbox"/> Skedel, Dan (Treasurer)*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bridgemohan, Areeta
<input type="checkbox"/> Hanoian, Scott	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hesse, Vicki	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ward, Diane

Summary of action taken:

- Approved two projects to move to Conservation Trust for funding.

Call to Order and Opening Prayer

Call to order: 7:13 p.m. by Father Drew. Opening Prayer by Lori Mouton Boeckler

Celebrate the Wins

- Celebrate Vicki's ministry and her new role at the Diocese
- Easter Service was well attended and curious as to why they are not coming every week.
- New families coming to the Church and that is exciting
- Opportunity to test our shepherds work with New member development
- The tragic death of the student was ministered to well by our Clergy
 - Parents to high school students received the email

Decisions

Conservation Trust

The Vestry approved eleven (11) projects submitted by Building and Grounds in March to move forward to Conservation Trust. The available funding balance after the eleven (11) projects was: **\$88,897**. Building and grounds requested two additional projects be approved and move to Conservation Trust for funding as follows:



- Rectory Roof Partial Replacement- Top **\$11,176**
- Patio Stone Replacements **\$5,650**
- Total w/ 15%Contingency **\$19,350**

The available balance in Conservation Trust if these two are approved would be \$69,547.

Discussion Items

Transition of Associate Priest

The Vestry asked about transition plans around Vicki's replacement. Father Drew stated that in most cases it is a 3 to 6-month process to source and hire a priest. Transition for Priests is something that is challenging for communities. It is why Vicki will need to say no to invitations as she moves forward. We will discuss in June Clergy Transitions; particularly since our community has struggled with transitions in the past. As the leaders of the community we will need to help the parish, Vicki, and ourselves manage a healthy transition.

The question was raised as to whether Christ Church is or will become a training ground. Father Drew highlighted that part of our ministry to the wider Church could be celebrating transitioning clergy to other opportunities. We are a Church where we have opportunity to allow clergy to come and learn and move on. Ministries should never be depending on clergy alone and we need to build ministries that can live on and through a transition. We recognize that the pastoral relationship with a Priest is special and that the transition is seen as a loss. Father Drew stated he understood the need for the conversation but it was not part of our planned time tonight so asked the group to hold the conversation so we could move on to the agenda for tonight.

Vestry as Spiritual Leaders

Father Drew reminded everyone that we had our retreat on May 12-13th and we want to focus on what it means to be Spiritual Leaders as a Vestry. Father Drew stated there were reflection questions in the packet and he want the Vestry to move into 5 groups of 3 to work through the questions.

A Vestry member stated he did not agree that as a Vestry we should be spending our time on the spiritual journey. The Vestry member stated he thought the best use of Vestry time was to focus on the finances, by-laws etc.

Father Drew thanked the member for his feedback and reminded the Vestry that temporal matters around finances, buildings, outreach has been delegated to other committees. Those committees were staffed with talented people who oversaw those items. The Vestry has limited time together. Father



Drew also stated that the role of Vestry are items that cannot be delegated and among those is the spiritual life of the parish. The second area that is critical for the Vestry to focus on is stewardship which needs to have a spiritual foundation. Everything we see in healthy and growing sustainable parishes starts with spirituality. Leaders are critical to the development of that spirituality, both as personal reflections and on a community level.

Karen Kienbaum shared that she understood the Vestry members concern but asked that he reflect and “try it on” for the evening. She supports Father Drew in leading us and appreciated their support as we work through this.

The groups moved into small groups for ~ 30 minutes of discussion and reflection.

Father Drew asked the groups if there were items they wanted to share with the whole. The following were some comments:

- Concern that the spiritual journey is inwardly focused – we treasure the outward part of the journey.
- What enlivens me question: if I am not actively moving forward in my journey I end up worrying and am not as prepared to handle my problems. Moving back to the path gives me the peace to deal with the things that are going on in my life. I need to be right with God first.
- Those that are on a full tilt can help others [including me] to be part of the spiritual journey. I struggle with whether I am on that spiritual journey myself. I like others who share that “positive” energy to know that others are there. I am trying it on.

What is the hope you have – the longing you have – for the spiritual journey? Our mission is to bring God and people together the why of this place.

- I personally need more God in my life. I want to know I am moving in the right way. If we are all on the journey together we can discuss it with each other and is a tangible thing that others will feel and want to be part of.
- Helps me cope with the noise and how to parse that out. If I can be in that place and I am not overcome by the noise, then I can recognize the good and do the good for others. If I am overcome with the noise of the world I may not be able to help others.
- Quest for peace, safety security and acceptance

Why does this matter to us?

- How can we help others if we are not aware of our own journey?
- Someone who leads helps make it spread...we are disciples! We need to lead like the disciples led.
- It's vital, you look to leaders first. We need to help set the direction for others in the community.



- Potential points of interactions where you can relate to others. It can help make deeper connections but I have a concern about how the receiver will react.

Father Drew acknowledged the vulnerability of this conversation. Anytime you share what you believe someone may not agree with you and thus the risk but such conversations are essential an essential for growth. Both our growth and for those we share with. However, today I am not asking you to have this conversation outside this room. I am hopeful that the Vestry as a team can start the spiritual journey together. Father Drew outlined the pathway and behaviors that he was asking the Vestry to undertake for the spiritual journey.

A proposed schedule for the vestry would be:

6:00 pm	Holy Eucharist
6:30 pm	Dinner
7:00 pm	Opening Prayer (using <i>Hour by Hour</i>)
7:05 pm	The Word (using <i>The Path</i>)
7:35 pm	Mission, Vision, and Ministry
8:55 pm	Closing Prayer (using <i>Hour by Hour</i>)

Additionally, I suggest that we as a Vestry join to complete two service projects each year.

The Practice	Private Discipleship	Vestry Action	Corporate Life
The Eucharist	Weekly	Monthly, at 6pm preceding our meeting	The heart of all corporate worship
The Prayers	Daily: Morning and Night using <i>Hour by Hour</i>	To begin and end our meetings (<i>Hour by Hour</i>)	Daily Office
The Word	Daily: using the Sunday Gospel	30 minutes at each meeting using <i>The Path</i>	Proclaimed at all worship services
Christian Fellowship	Weekly at Church	Monthly Dinner, at 630pm preceding our meeting	The Peace, Coffee Hour, and Wednesdays at Christ Church
Sacrificial Service	Monthly	Participation in 2 service projects a year as a Vestry	Outreach Ministries (Service projects) and internal service opportunities



Sacrificial Giving	Annual giving	To reach a tithe in giving beyond CCGP, beginning with our support of Diocesan ministry	Sacrificial giving beyond Christ Church
---------------------------	---------------	---	---

The Vestry agreed to the agreed and approved the agenda outline for the Vestry.

Father Drew provided two books for the Vestry which included: The Path a journey through the bible, and Hour by Hour. For Vestry members with younger children he provided the Family version of the Path also which provides 24 biblical stories that everyone should not only know, but reflect on how it applies to our lives.

Consent Agenda

The minutes for the April meeting were presented. No changes were recommended. Approved.

Vestry Retreat

Father Drew reminded everyone about the retreat on May 12-13. The focus is a strategic conversation about how we run the Church.

Finance Update

Finance Packet is provided. Expense variances are attributed to timing of expenses to placement in budget. No indication of “overspending”. The concern has been and continues to be around growing our revenue and stewardship.

By-Laws Taskforce Update

Taskforce has not been able to meet with coordination of schedules.

Meeting was closed at 9:47 p.m. Closing Prayer George Sutton.

Submitted by:

Diane E. Ward
Associate for Finance and Administration

Approved by:

Michael Hix (Aug 21, 2017)

Michael Hix
Vestry Secretary