

Holy Trinity Episcopal Parish Vestry Meeting

May 21, 2017

Present: Mtr Suz (Rector), Paul Anderson (Sr. Warden), Kathy Crouse (Jr. Warden), Byron Harder, Meredith Mims McTigue, Jack Davis, Dustin Foxworth, Tommye Hurst, Iris Reed, Kathy Sparks, Kaleb Ellison, Kathy Hunter, Joe Yanes David Robb.

Excused: Bill McDaniel, Hap Wheeler

Opening Prayer: Paul Anderson opened with a prayer.

Lectio divina and Reflection: Mtr. Suz presented Matthew 28:16-20 for the Vestry and asked them to reflect upon the verses. Discussion ensued.

Vestry Purpose Statement: Kathy Crouse facilitated an exercise to develop a purpose statement for the Vestry – one that is specific to this Vestry at this time. Rebecca will type up the results of the brainstorm and send out a draft. Next we will develop three goals.

Approval of minutes April Vestry meeting minutes: Jack Davis made a motion to approve the minutes from the April meeting. Seconded by Iris Reed. Motion approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Dustin Foxworth reported that pledge and plate offerings are about \$18,000 over budget. The printing/publication/supplies line item is over budget, but that was caused by larger one-time purchases. Iris Reed made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report; seconded by Byron Harder. Motion approved unanimously.

Rector's Report:

- **Important Dates:** Mtr. Suz shared upcoming dates that are important in the life of the parish and encouraged the Vestry to participate: Pentecost Picnic on June 4, Christopher's Ordination on June 17 at St. Matthews in Spartanburg, and a Day School dinner on June 1. We can arrange carpool to the Ordination; Mtr. Suz will add something to HT Notes about carpooling opportunities.
- **Canterbury Ministry.** At the Diocesan level there is a surplus of funds that has been set aside as seed money for Canterbury Ministry. Eight clergy are studying what is happening in Canterbury Ministries across the Diocese. Our program is much more robust than elsewhere in the Diocese. We hope to benefit from the funding that is available.
- **Clergy Business Day:** Clergy attended a business meeting at the Diocesan level to discuss pension funds and other topics, including how political tensions are affecting parishioners in churches across the Diocese. They agreed there may be some anxiety, although not pervasive. She asked the Vestry if they have perceived these issues at Holy Trinity. Discussion ensued and all agreed that the parish seems to be doing fine.

Junior Warden's Report:

- **General facilities maintenance:** Kathy Crouse reported that we have eliminated the problem with squirrels and bats. Roofers are going to fix a tiny leak. We are looking at replacing light fixtures in the Parish Hall. We can't buy florescent light fixtures anymore, so we are making the transition to other types of lighting. We will try new lighting in one classroom, including a dimmer switch. After

we see how we like it, we will adjust as needed and continue at the main level, then basement, then upstairs.

- **St. Paul's:** Two tombstones in the church cemetery are damaged. A police report was made and we have filed an insurance claim. The families are longer in the area, so we will work with someone who can repair the tombstone. Insurance pays \$1000 per stone.
- **Vestry Security Duty:** Kathy reminded Vestry members to be sure to attend all security duties when it is their turn to close the parish hall on Sundays. Walk all the floors, make sure all the doors are shut, be sure ovens and stove are turned off. Kitchen training is forthcoming by Beth Kunkel and will be mandatory for those who help in the kitchen.
- **Saturday Workday:** We will have a workday at St. Paul's on Saturday, May 27, to prepare for Pentecost Picnic.
- **Senior Warden's Report:** Paul Anderson had nothing to add to what had already been discussed.

Ministry Teams:

Outreach: We have a new committee chair - Carlo Troise. Also, Harry Morse spoke to a very small group of Vestry members about the Summits organization and its support of Haiti. The organization is on firm footing and has strong donations. All of our donations will go directly to the students. An endowment pays the salaries of those who work for Summits. Those who attended Harry's talk agreed that it sounds like a good organization to partner with in support of scholarships for students in Haiti. Harry will be talking to the Outreach Committee about this topic on June 12.

Episcopal Day School (EDS): We are invited to the EDS Closing program (graduation) on Friday, June 2 at 9 am. Meredith encouraged everyone to attend. The night before is a dinner at the Wheeler's house to honor the teachers. Cara Robb is coordinating this gathering. In addition, EDS also will be working on Strategic Planning, their mission statement, growth, engagement, etc. Parish awareness of the school needs to be increased, and that starts with Vestry leadership. Regarding the budget, we had a tuition increase approved earlier and the budget includes a four percent raise. Byron Harder made a motion to approve the EDS budget; seconded by Iris Reed. Motion passed unanimously.

Temporary Parking Lot: Tommye Hurst has volunteered to head up a team to look at next steps for the temporary parking lot. She has a history with this topic and the work completed by the 20/20 Vision Task Force, as well as a passion for planning the future of the site. The team will build on the work that the Vision 2020 Task Force has done and ensure that the Task Force and Parish know that we are taking their work and using the input in considering next steps. We need to prepare for what we have to do in the near term (by 2018) based on the terms set forth by the city about the temporary nature of the parking lot. Also, an important consideration is that the parking lot generates revenue that is helping to pay down the debt. The group will develop a short term plan and then look to the future. .

Adjournment.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Rebecca Eidson, Clerk to the Vestry