

Vestry Minutes—Church of Our Redeemer

Wednesday, May 6, 2009--7:30pm

Handley Library, Church of Our Redeemer

Attendance: Connie Parrish (Sr. Warden), George Murnaghan (Jr. Warden), Dinesh Dulipsingh (Treasurer), the Rev. Sabeth Fitzgibbons, Randy Bowlby, Erica Brotschi, Jed Geyerhahn, Sandra Keshishian, Peter Lund, Jack Manes, Katherine Mirani.

Absent: Janet Kern (Clerk), Lindsay Koso

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 with a prayer.

Approval of Minutes: A MOTION was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the Vestry meeting April 15, 2009. There were no changes or amendments. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report: Dinesh provided the Treasurer’s report of revenue and expenditures from Jan-April 2009, and reviewed the figures. Revenue appears “on track” and comparable to the last few years at this point in the year.

The office supply budget was noted to be high, and reasons for this were discussed, as well as ways to hold down expenses by having various parish programs cover supplies from their own budget allocations.

The Treasurer will report on unexpectedly high expenses in the Parish Life budget.

Good news was that the Patriots Day Pancake Breakfast netted about \$3000 for the Lexington Food Pantry.

Funds for Deacon’s expenses: MOTION was made by Connie to approve funds to partially cover Rev. Ted Geisser’s attendance at a clergy conference April 28-30. Connie requested \$165 for this purpose, with the Treasurer to determine the appropriate budget line for the expenditure. The Vestry expressed appreciation for all the assistance Ted has been providing to the parish. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Vestry Liaison to Parish Committees: Connie requested the Vestry members report on their committee activities, to determine which members could be liaison to each committee. The Vestry members on standing committees were noted to be:

COMMITTEE	VESTRY MEMBER(S)
Communication	Janet Kern
Endowment	Connie Parrish, Peter Lund
Finance	George Murnaghan, Dinesh Dulipsingh
Mission	Erica Brotschi
Music	Erica Brotschi
Personnel	Jack Manes
Property	Randy Bowlby
Retreat	Randy Bowlby
Stewardship	Jed Geyerhahn, Connie Parrish
Welcome	Sandy Keshishian, Katherine Mirani

Deleted: “

Proposal for Education Committee: Sabeth suggested that we should have a standing committee for education and formation, since that is an important ministry in our parish. The Vestry agreed that this was appropriate. Sabeth said she would bring a proposal for next meeting, to discuss as a motion.

Post-Forums Discussion: Parish discussion at the two recent forums with diocesan representatives was reviewed and discussed. Connie asked each person to comment on the forums and their impression of current parish sentiment. Sandy said the parish wants more information about how decisions were made, and wants to know more about how we can avoid similar situations in the future.

Vestry agreed that expeditious selection of a Priest in Charge will help the parish move forward. Some people will continue to grieve the loss of Rev. deBeer, and their grief should be acknowledged and lovingly respected.

The Vestry discussed how to determine whether there is a need for additional parish forums. Connie will discuss this with diocesan representatives, and the Vestry will discuss this with parishioners.

Vestry Discussion of Priest in Charge Candidate: The Vestry then discussed each member's reactions to the Priest in Charge candidate proposed by the Diocese, the Rev. Kate Ekrem. Discussion was based on answers to the diocesan questionnaire, as well as a meeting between Rev. Ekrem and the Vestry on May 1, 2009. The overall reaction of the Vestry was strongly positive.

A MOTION was made and seconded to accept the diocese's recommended candidate, the Rev. Kate Ekrem, as Redeemer's Priest in Charge. This was unanimously accepted.

CORI Training for Church Personnel: Sabeth discussed the need for CORI (Criminal Offender Records Inquiry) training for members of the parish who might need to check criminal background of parish personnel. Someone will need to get training on interpreting and storing these records. Connie will determine if someone on the personnel committee has this training or can get it.

Peter gave a brief update on his review of church facility rental policies and rates. He reported that our rates are generally in line with similar facilities.

The Vestry was instructed to pick up Vestry notebooks and updated materials.

The Vestry made the following ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Thanks to Randy Bowlby, and all who participated in making the Pancake Breakfast such a success.

Thanks to Cheryl Duerr, and all of the Talent Show organizers and participants.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm with a prayer.