

Trinity Episcopal Church
Fishkill, NY 12524
Minutes of Vestry Meeting on August 19, 2009

The Rev. Sr. Jean Campbell, OSH called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Opening prayers were offered.

Present: The Rev. Sr. Jean Campbell, OSH (rector); Wardens Frederick Villforth and Connie Smith; vestry members Wayne Bunker, Anne Huston, Jerry Picard, Bob Rothmann, Jean Winkler, Cheri Hamilton.

Not Present: Vestry members Bob Drennan, Marilyn Sullivan, Robert McCollum.

Winkler made a motion to accept the minutes of the July Vestry Meeting; Bunker seconded. Vote was unanimous in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

- We are approximately \$8000 under budgeted pledge income. Based on the discussion, it was suggested that the situation be brought to the congregation's attention in September.

Committee Reports

Outreach

- Huston distributed report and noted that the next Outreach committee meeting is September 8. Donations to the Rural Migrant Ministries Summer Camp were much appreciated. Thanks to Susan Quade for securing donation of food and paper supplies from Taco Bell to provide a day's lunch for the campers.
- Winkler noted that invitations will be distributed to other churches and houses of worship inviting them to the Baby Shower to benefit the House of Hope.

Building & Grounds

- Bunker reported that 3 bids were received for landscaping the hill around the columbarium. Costs were broken down into clean up and mulch, and new planting. Bunker recommends Willow Ridge Nursery as the contractor. Some memorial money has been designated for this purpose, but additional funding must be investigated before proceeding, including the use of other memorial funds. It is the vestry's intent to move forward with this project after determining the amount of funds available. Thanks to Bob Rothman for his work in securing the three bids.

Christian Formation

- Picard reported that Doug Fisher is scheduled to speak on October 25. His topic will be Christian life, decision making and responsibilities. Details of time and format will follow.

Old Business

- Proposed Financial Guidelines were reviewed and are appended to this report. Amendment to item 7 of the guidelines: The Treasurer *and at least one member of the Vestry* must be a member of this committee. **Bunker made a motion to approve the Financial Guidelines with the specified amendment; Picard seconded. Vote was unanimous in favor. Motion carried.**
- Discussion and approval of Fundraising Guidelines is postponed until September meeting.
- Winkler distributed Core Care packets to all in attendance. There will be an item in the newsletter to introduce the congregation to the concept, and Sister Jean will preach about it in upcoming weeks.

New Business

- One niche has been designated in the columbarium for charitable purposes as recommended by the Executive Committee. The vestry agreed that this was a good idea. The niche will hold up to four cremains. Bunker believed that cremains may also be buried in the church cemetery as long as they are unmarked, and that the names of buried cremains may be on the baptismal font. He will research and report back to the Vestry.
- Trinity has been served with a lawsuit by the former tenant of 18 Main Street in connection with his accident on the steps. He is seeking lost wages. His former wife is also listed in the lawsuit. An attorney has been hired by the insurance company. According to the attorney, the amount of money being sought is could be more than our basic coverage, but it is not likely that an award of that amount would be granted. Necessary documents have been provided to the insurance company.
- The current tenant of 18 Main Street is \$2400 in arrears. Eviction proceedings have been started.
- A meeting was held with Century 21 to discuss management of the 18 Main Street property. Century 21 will submit a proposal for management services and associated costs to Trinity.
- Diocesan Assessment has been reduced by \$4800.
- Contents of the safe deposit box at M&T Bank, Fishkill, NY, were inventoried. Authorized signers of the box are currently Jean Campbell, Frederick Villforth, and Constance Smith. **Winkler made a motion to authorize the rector and two wardens as authorized signers for the safe deposit box; Huston seconded. Vote was unanimous in favor. Motion carried.**
- **Villforth made a motion to approve a withdrawal in the amount of \$9550 from the Morgan Stanley Active Assets money market account to meet current operating expenses. Winkler seconded. Vote was unanimous in favor. Motion carried.**

Announcements

- Sr. Jean announced that the Psalms will be sung beginning September 13 and will continue until the first Sunday in Advent.

Villforth moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 pm; Bunker seconded. Vote was unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Smith