

Trinity Episcopal Church
Fishkill, NY 12524
Minutes of Vestry Meeting on May 19, 2010

The Rev. Jean Campbell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Opening prayers were offered.

Present: The Rev. Jean Campbell; Wardens Connie Smith and Susan Quade; Vestry members Terry Badura, Steven Blanks, Wayne Bunker, Tara Casaregola, Cheri Hamilton, Robert McCollum, Bob Rothmann, Marilyn Sullivan, Bob Tetrault; Vestry secretary Linda Herrera.

Minutes of Vestry Meeting on April 21, 2010

Connie Smith made a motion to accept the minutes of the April Vestry meeting; Wayne Bunker seconded. Vote was unanimous in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – April

Balance Sheet

Trinity's assets on April 30, 2010 totaled \$556,365:

\$53,993 Checking and savings accounts
\$58,148 Chevron stock
\$444,224 Morgan Stanley and Vanguard managed accounts

Income Statement

	<u>Apr. 2010</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Prior Year</u>
Operating income	\$ 13,460	\$ 75,391	\$ 68,562
Operating expenses	15,875	74,822	70,850
Net profit (loss)	(2,415)	569	(2,288)
Non-operating income	1,141	5,623	7,316
Non-operating expenses	246	1,204	1,690
Net profit (loss)	895	4,419	5,626
Total income	14,602	81,014	75,878
Total expenses	16,122	76,026	72,540
Net profit (loss)	\$ (1,520)	\$ 4,988	\$ 3,338

- \$42,087.60 from art sale proceeds is awaiting disbursement to the Vassar Haiti Project.
- Rob McCollum has prepared a letter for insertion in the first quarter contribution statements. The letter provides current income and expenses data with pledge statistics:
 - Without pre-paid pledges, we would be \$9,000 under budget in offering income;
 - We've withdrawn \$9,500 from the money market account to cover operating expenses;
 - Only 51% of families are current with their pledge.
- The Vestry discussed contacting parishioners directly to ask if there are special circumstances keeping them from meeting their obligation.
- Sr. Jean will confirm with the pledge clerk that contribution statements list the pledged amount, total given to-date, and the remaining balance.

Committee Reports

Finance

- Rob McCollum reported on the finance committee's May 10th meeting. The group reviewed Trinity's investment portfolio with the purpose of shifting a percentage of assets from interest-bearing accounts to growth-oriented ETFs (exchange-traded funds).
- The bond market appears to have peaked, and this is a good time to cash in our gains. The committee recommends selling approximately \$70,000 of the Vanguard Bond Fund and taking future dividends in cash.
- The goal for our investments is to increase the church's endowment for long-term stability. Funding capital improvements on our "wish list" (e.g. sacristy and kitchen renovations) from savings would not be prudent stewardship, especially while we are drawing from the investments to balance the operating budget.
- Trinity needs a weekly offering income of \$4,000 to cover operating expenses, and we are not currently meeting that level.

Rob McCollum made a motion to liquidate \$70,000 in Vanguard Short-Term Investment Grade Bond Fund shares and move the proceeds of that sale, as well as all future dividends, to the Morgan Stanley Active Assets Money Market Fund. This money will be invested in growth-oriented ETFs to be selected by the finance committee. Bob Tetrault seconded. Vote was unanimous in favor. Motion carried.

Worship

- There was an increase in attendance over last year at the Holy Week and Easter services.
- Sr. Jean has presided over 1 baptism, 1 marriage, and 2 funerals since the beginning of the year.
- 6 adults were confirmed/received during the Bishop's visitation on May 9th.
- There is a need for additional Eucharistic Ministers at the 10 a.m. service; interested persons should speak with Sr. Jean.

Christian Formation

- Steven Blanks is planning a series of programs for adults. Beginning on June 4th at 7 p.m. in the Parish House, he will hold "First Friday Gatherings" for scripture study and conversation.
- Trinity is forming a Guild of St. Benedict dedicated to praying the Daily Office.
- Steven outlined a number of other ideas and encouraged the Vestry to contact him with any suggestions.

Church School

Terry Badura is working with the church school staff to resolve communication issues and to plan for next year.

Outreach

Susan Quade reported on the outreach committee meeting of April 27th. Activities for spring and summer will include:

- House of Hope Pajama Party (date to be determined).

- The J2A group will help serve dinner at Hillcrest House on May 31st.
- Relay for Life and Cystic Fibrosis walks will be held the first week of June.
- We will sponsor a camper for one week at Rural & Migrant Ministry summer camp and also hold our annual towel collection. Susan will ask Taco Bell to provide lunch for one day.
- Ongoing outreach efforts include the food pantry, eyeglass collection, and Episcobuild.
- Pam Bunker will speak on June 13th at the 10 a.m. service about her experience in Haiti.

Buildings and Grounds

Bob Rothmann planted flowers underneath the church sign.

Old Business

Leadership/Vestry Day Feedback

- The Vestry members who attended the May 8th workshop in Poughkeepsie provided feedback. The sessions provided an opportunity for participants to share their activities and exchange ideas on Christian formation, communications, buildings and grounds, and finance/fundraising.
- There is a definite interest among all the churches for more sharing of information, skills and resources, possibly including a common database or website.

Warden's Conference

Connie Smith and Susan Quade attended a warden's conference on May 8th. The workshop largely focused on church financial matters and resources that are available to parishes from the diocese.

Photo Directory

- Terry Badura and Tara Casaregola met with an Olan Mills sales representative and have scheduled June 25th and 26th as our first photography dates for the new directory. There will be an additional date sometime in the fall.
- Olan Mills will call parishioners to schedule sittings; Terry and Tara emphasized to the company that we do not want any "hard selling."
- Olan Mills includes an option for an online church directory. There was some discussion on that topic and a consensus that only with permission from all families would we consider making the directory available online.

New Business

Summer Intern

- Ms. Ezgi Saribay will come to Trinity from June 14th – July 24th. Ms. Saribay is participating in a college discernment program, and her purpose in coming to Trinity is to learn the vocation of a parish priest.
- Sr. Jean is working to arrange housing for Ezgi during her stay as well as a number of outreach projects and activities with our youth groups.

Parish Picnic

- Trinity's annual parish picnic will be held on Saturday, June 19th after the 5 p.m. service. The main dish (barbequed chicken) and drinks will be provided and attendees will bring a side dish or dessert. There will be sign-up sheets for food and also for set-up and cleaning.
- The parking situation may be a little tight because the IBM Chorus Club is rehearsing for their spring concert that evening.

Cystic Fibrosis Walk

Wayne Bunker made a motion to allow donation envelopes to be placed in the church to raise funds for the June 6th Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Great Strides Walk. Terry Badura seconded. Vote was unanimous in favor. Motion carried.

Episcobuild

- On May 15th, Sr. Jean and a group of six parishioners attended a neighborhood bus tour of Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh's completed homes and those still under construction.
- The Vestry viewed a video describing the Newburgh revitalization project and the positive impact that decent, affordable housing has had on the lives of the families who purchased the homes.

Wayne Bunker moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. Tetrault seconded. Vote was unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Herrera