

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany
Vestry Meeting Minutes
DATE: December 11, 2017

In Attendance:

Vestry - Amy Shipp, Bonnie Kissler, Brenda Lloyd, Bruce Maclachlan, Bill Gary, Alix Janke, Holly Slater, Annie Strahan

Clergy—Benno Pattison, Sharon Hiers

Ex officio – Martha Rummel, Dennis Edmiston, Kimberly Bonde

Absent – Katie Pedersen, Paul Welty, Nancy Chandler

Prayer and Dinner:

Dinner: Amy provided a delicious dinner.

Prayer/Meditation: Benno lead the meditation, asking what we are waiting for. We also welcomed Dennis Edmiston and Kimberly Bonde who have agreed to serve on vestry beginning in 2018.

Minutes and gifts over \$100: The minutes were presented. It was moved that they be approved. Motion was seconded, and the minutes were unanimously approved. No gifts over \$100.

Committee Reports

Rector's report: Benno reported on meeting of an ad hoc committee considering the proposal of the Little Forrest Preschool to rent space from Epiphany. The committee was impressed by the staff of the school and, pending a contract including details on creating a fenced in area and putting up a shed, they recommend that the church move forward with renting them space. Brenda moved that the vestry accept the committee's recommendation. Motion seconded and approved. The afterschool program which also approached Epiphany about shared space has not produced a sufficiently detailed business plan to date so the committee recommends giving them a deadline of January 22, 2018 to produce said business plan. Until such time the committee recommends no action.

Benno asked the vestry members to give a yearend report on what worked well for them regarding their vestry duties and what did not work well. The project list and timelines, made and assigned at the vestry retreat, seemed to work well for the first half of the year but fizzled out in the second half. It was also suggested that, since some areas of vestry responsibility take the member much of their first year to establish a working committee, members my want to spend more than one year in their area of responsibility.

Julie will be taking a 3 month sabbatical in 2018. Dates to be determined.

Finance: Benno reported from the financial committee that there is a gap in 2017 income, which is not unusual for December, and they are confident that the gap can be made up by the end of the year. Benno will look into part of the shortfall from non-pledged income. There was also a suggestion that financial reports be simplified.

Benno also proposed a more deliberate process for adopting the annual budget. It will begin with a draft using last year's budget. We also need to make sure the budget is included in the minutes.

Bill reported on the new online giving pilot with ACS. From the online directory people can make one-time gifts or recurring payments by direct deposit or credit card. Pledges cannot be made yet but will be able in the future.

Stewardship: The expected pledges for 2018 are not all in yet. An appeal will be put in the next eblast and Benno will make an announcement in church. After that the vestry will call people who have not pledged yet.

Building & Grounds: Sharon suggested that we move the baptismal font to the back of the nave and that we keep water in it. The idea was well received by the vestry and further consideration will be given.

Capital Campaign: The last meeting with Breedlove landscaping will be this week. Plans will be finalized and work can then begin on the area from the parish hall to the point. Obtaining permits will be the first step. Demolition of the Byrd house is waiting on an arborist for tree removal. The water bill from DeKalb County is still outstanding and will need to be negotiated.

PRAYER & ADJOURN:

After a final prayer, the meeting was adjourned.