



**St. Timothy's Episcopal Church
Draft Vestry Minutes
October 12, 2015
6:30 pm
Room 13 (Downstairs)**

Present:

Dave Head, Senior Warden
Scott Gaskill, Junior Warden
Bill Chimley, Christian Education
John MacCoon, Outreach
Derrick Hill, Rector
Sarah McKenzie, Clerk
Blake Murchison, Evangelism present after the Meditation
Leigh Althaus, Stewardship
Uno Avisto, Administration
Cathy Pyron, Worship
Tonda Rawls, Parish Life
Joe Johnson, Building and Grounds
Dan Durant, Pastoral Care

Absent

Robert Hartmans, Assistant to the Rector.

Staff Highlight None

Meditation for Vestry Meeting Joe Johnson read a prayer for our leaders in Congress and discussed the book being studied in the Men's Bible Study The Scandalous Gospel of Jesus by Peter J. Gomes and highlighted a quotation from Gandhi expounding on the Beatitudes.

SWEEPSEA FOCUS for Vestry Meeting – Buildings & Grounds: Joe Johnson presented a handout on the capital needs of the church which is attached. Additional detail was discussed on the Outdoor Commons plans including reconfiguring the driveway, an area for Zammarin, and handicap access and parking. Additional discussion on the Parish Hall included the possibility of a sprinkler system rather than an additional exit. The cost of the new exit would likely be less than the sprinkler system but we don't have an accurate estimate at this time. Dan Durant added the sound system to the future expenses. Uno Avisto proposed that we have Jabus and Joe get three estimates for the second Parish Hall exit and a sprinkler system. Joe also highlighted usher training on the fire extinguishers and the defibrillator. Dave Head also noted that we have a bee problem in the north wall of the nave. Father Derrick said that we need to come up with a prioritized list of projects to accomplish over the next few years as part of the Vestry long range plan and leading into a capital campaign drive. Scott Gaskill estimated getting a reserve fund analysis done that would show over the next few years. Dan suggested plans for relocating the bees. Dave also thanked Dan and Joe for replacing the thrift shop stairs.



Approval of Minutes Dan Durant moved to approve the September minutes. Joe Johnson seconded and the motion was approved.

Financial Review Dave Head reviewed the September 2015 financial statements. Dave noted that Nancy had reviewed but had not provided her comments yet as she is out of town. He said that the budgeted amount is more than the actual number of pledges, but even so we are still behind in pledges. We have not caught up from last month. The plate offering is ahead and expenses are lower so the net effect is okay. Uno Avisto asked about the difference in the Stewardship budget vs. actual and Lee Althaus explained that it was due to timing of the expenses. Dave Head noted that most commissions were within budget and that Parish Life had spent most of their budget and Outreach has about \$4,000 left to spend. Dan Durant and John MacCoon commented on Met Min's work with those affected in the condemnation of the apartment building. Uno Avisto moved to approve the financials, Dan Durant seconded and the motion was approved. Dave Head stated that the diocesan support was figured on a percentage of what we reported in 2014. So in 2016 we will be \$87,204 vs. \$76,520 in 2015, \$83,206 in 2014.

Items for Decision & Discussion

- A. Vestry Nominating Committee status update and nominee qualifications:
Dave Head noted that the committee consisted of 4 people and that they came up with a list of 31 people to call. They still needs final word for two people on Dan's list and two on Scott's list. Judith Miller, Tony Hullender, Bill Chimley, Adam Holland, Chip Langley, Rick Sommer, Cathy Robbins, Lamar Hutcheson have agreed to run. He said that the By-Laws require Vestry members to be confirmed for a year preceding the election. Rick Sommer has only been a member since December of last year but has attended several months before his membership transferred. Dave noted the intent is that a person is here for a year before they serve. Adam has been here for more than a year but won't be confirmed until January. He said that if Adam was elected he would not be able to vote with the Vestry until he was confirmed. Father Derrick agreed that the intent of the by-laws is that the person is involved in the Church. Dave reminded us that we have a precedent with electing April Elkovitch prior to her being confirmed. Scott Gaskill moved that we waive the section of the By-Laws regarding confirmed communicants for one year preceding the election for the Vestry in reference to the two individuals discussed. Leigh Althaus seconded and the motion was approved.
- B. Annual Parish Meeting Format: Dave Head reviewed the balloting requirement from the By-Laws for Vestry in that each elected person must receive a majority. He noted that it was likely we would have to have a second ballot to achieve this. The proposal to have an all-day meeting inclusive of all services does not work well with the requirement in the By-Laws. Dave said that we should have the meeting in the morning in conjunction with the single service starting at 9:00. There is no provision for absentee ballots but there can be write-ins as long as they are vetted and



agree to serve. There will be a 5:00 service that day. In response to Dan's question on how we can improve attendance, Dave said that childcare will be provided. It was suggested to change the by-laws for next year since it is too late for this year. The format of the annual meeting includes a Treasurer's report and highlights from the written report from each SWEEPSA liaison. There will be a Senior Wardens' report. The written reports are due to Jenna by October 30th. Father Derrick suggested having the meeting at 9:00 beginning with a morning prayer followed by the 10:30 service. Derrick gave detail on how the all-day meeting works so that all services have a chance to vote. Dave Head said that the bios for each Vestry member would be in the bulletin and each would stand for face recognition. Leigh Althaus noted that the voting period has in the past included a time for people to stand up and talk about what St. Timothy's means to them. Discussion was held on formatting the ballots with the conclusion that all names needed to be on one ballot. The decision came to having the meeting before or after the service. Problems with it being before are the meeting running over with a second ballot. Derrick noted that the changing time of the 10:30 service can be problematic for new families not realizing the time change. He proposed a shortened liturgy and sermon. There would be no 8:00 service. Communication will be important. Derrick suggested that we have it after the 10:30 service with the first round of balloting during the offertory and doing the reports during the announcements.

- C. Short-term extension of the use of rectory for special use by DIOET person: Dave Head noted that this was previously approved through the end of October and he moved that we extend the deadline for use of the member of the Diocese for 30 days until November 30th, 2015. Discussion including a possible further extension was held.

Motion: Scott Gaskill moved that we give the Rector the discretion to extend the deadline for use of the rental house until the end of the year if needed. Uno Avisto seconded and the motion was approved.

- D. SWEEPSA ministry requests for 2016 budget: Dave Head had asked that they all be in by tonight's meeting. He noted that they need to be sent to Cary. Cary had sent out the worksheet in August.
- E. Stewardship campaign status update: Leigh Althaus noted that they had their first meeting last week and attendees will each deliver four cards. We are still planning on mailing pledge cards out Monday after Father Derrick's Stewardship sermon. New people and big donors will have a personal visit. In response to Uno's question Leigh noted the process for following up on pledge cards that have not been turned in. Father Derrick suggested blessing the pledge cards before they go out.



- F. Dave Head added an application for serving wine for Signal Santa's meeting December 3rd. Dave so moved. Dan Durant seconded and the motion was approved.

Rector's Report

Father Derrick gave a worship attendance analysis showing that the total attendance had increased over 2014 by 35% and the 5:00 will most likely level out to a base of around 50 people. The October 4th service included attendees for the Blessing of the Pets. There has been lots of positive feedback and the hope is that it will grow and allow 10:30 room to grow.

He has some names for his advisory group for the assistant rector position but has not set that up yet. He also has some names for potential candidates.

26 families have visited the church since last fall according to Betty Ewing. Derrick has on the calendar an Oct. 25th newcomers luncheon but may need to reschedule and will confer with Blake.

He and Beverley served on a Cursillo staff at Grace Point this past week and he commented that the movement in East Tennessee is extremely healthy. This involves two weekends per year and is a spiritual renewal weekend that came out of the Catholic tradition in Spain. There are short talks, fun activities, getting to know each other, and the 4th day which involves following up from year to year. Members of his original group were involved in his decision to go to seminary. Negatives are that it can become a church within a church and exclusive but that is not the case with the East Tennessee group.

Ward Ewing has agreed to facilitate our Vestry Retreat and he will explore the reorganization of the SWEEPSEA model, Derrick will meet with him in November to begin planning the agenda and to look at how we would vision the new structure. The retreat is at St. Mary's January 15th and 16th.

Father Robert and Father Derrick have a clergy conference beginning next Sunday night through Tuesday.

Wardens' Reports

Dave Head noted the Bylaws change dealing with filling vacancies on the Vestry was approved by the Diocese as was Robert's addendum to his LOA. We are looking for volunteers to attend the Diocesan Convention. This will be announced in the Signal. It is the first Friday and Saturday in February in Knoxville. There is a banquet with a highly recommended speaker from the General Theological Seminary in New York. Bill and Gail Chapman and Bill Steverson attended last year and can describe their experiences.

Other Business

Father Derrick noted he visited with a lady in the hospital who has not been affiliated with a church for a number of years. He officiated over her funeral.



Addendum to October 12th Vestry Minutes

October 5th
Vestry Officers
5:30

October 11th
20th Sunday after Pentecost
8:00 a.m. Rite I – Chapel
10:30 a.m. Rite II – Nave
Lockup: Murchison

October 12th
Vestry Meeting
6:30 Room 13

October 18th
21st Sunday after Pentecost
8:00 a.m. Rite I – Chapel
10:30 a.m. Rite II – Nave
5:00 p.m. - Nave
Lockup: McKenzie

October 25th
22nd Sunday after Pentecost
8:00 a.m. Rite I – Chapel
10:30 a.m. Rite II – Nave
5:00 p.m. - Nave
Lockup: Gaskill

November 1st
23rd Sunday after Pentecost
8:00 a.m. Rite I – Chapel
10:30 a.m. Rite II – Nave
5:00 p.m. - Nave
Lockup: MacCoon