

**Minutes of St Stephen's Vestry Meeting
Wednesday, May 16, 2018**

In Attendance:

Sam Pease, *Warden*, Jeff Antos, *Junior Warden*, Bob Jackson, *Treasurer*, Dick Avery, *Assistant Treasurer*, Dan Dubeau, *Clerk*; Alan Wittrup, David Bigley, Bruce McWhorter, Marylou Lawrence, Tanya Buchanan, Sally Tague, Jon Arnold, Matt Templeton, Jim Laprade, and Declan McHugh, *Youth Representative*.

7:05pm: Opening prayer, led by Sam.

Agenda voted on and approved. No minutes from the April meeting – no quorum.

WE TRUST

Property Update (Sam):

- The tree is now down over at the rectory.
- The rectory roof is now repaired also thanks to the generosity of two parishioners.
- The new windows are arriving Friday, May 18 for installation.
- Two-thirds of the de-leading abatement process is completed. All is going well. Next step is for the windows to be installed and then they will wrap up the de-leading.
- The rectory will need some paint in the front, inside and possibly the shed.
- Hoping to schedule a Rectory “clean up day”.
- The roofer has requested an endorsement – Vestry approved a name neutral endorsement.

Financial Update (Bob)

- Bob reviewed the current budget status and balance sheet.
- We will be taking a draw from the reserve savings to cover the remaining balances on the repairs – which was expected.
- Bob reviewed a budget projection for 2019. It will be important that we reverse the trend of declining pledge income once we have a new Rector on board, as the financial commitment for 2019 looks to be \$342,000.
- Jon said that the mortgage initiative was a huge success and that we should run more campaigns like that periodically.
- Tanya mentioned that it is important that the Board/Vestry gets the word out on such campaigns. This led to a discussion on stewardship.

- Bob shared that to achieve the \$342,000 goal, it would equate to \$375 per pledging unit. The goal seems achievable, however, not all parishioners pledge each year, so the goal should also be to lift the total number of pledge units.
- Sally asked if we should list “pet projects” for 2019 so as to earmark funds for what needs to be done. Bob explained how that might not be advisable and outlined the differences between stewardship and restricted giving and how earmarking falls under the restricted giving category. This could bind the flexibility needed to effectively operate the church.
- Bob suggested that the stewardship campaign should talk about what it is that we might “lose” (ie: Outreach) without your critical pledge.

WE SERVE

Bruce asked if there was any type of Vestry training that members of our Vestry could attend. He said these are all good points and that we have several new members who could benefit from an orientation run by the diocese. Dan mentioned that he had attended such an event called the Diocesan Resource Day a couple of years ago but had not heard of another such event since. Dan will research and report back.

Search Committee Update – Mary Lou reported that the interview and meet and greet process is just about closed. She stated that the Search Committee will be meeting very soon to vote on the final candidate at which time the Vestry will be alerted for their vote. Sam shared that we should all be “on a string”, so to speak, and ready to come to the church for a short notice meeting once we get to that point during the week of May 30.

WE WELCOME/EVENTS

- Dan provided an update on the Godly Play End of Year Party.
- Sam shared that preparations are underway for Amy’s ordination. He encouraged all to attend as it is really something to see.

White Earth Mission Trip (David Bigley)

- The group going to Minnesota is finalized.
- They will be delivering the VBS “Shipwrecked” program as a part of the visit.
- Fund raising has gone very well and the Diocesan match through the grant program was approved.

WE WORSHIP

- Discussion on Beach Services start date. Settled on July 1st.

WE GROW

- One baptism this weekend.
- Between services, Deacon Dan will conduct the Confirmation Group meeting.
- The Strategic Planning session that was postponed will be rescheduled.

Meeting adjourned at 8:51pm.

NEXT VESTRY MEETING: June 20, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel J Dubeau, *Clerk*