

NATIVITY CATHEDRAL

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY VESTRY MINUTES

Date:

Attending:

Richard Sause	X	Tori Aitchison		Werner Reinartz	X
Karen Boksan	X	Susan Sartaretto		Joe Hafich	X
Annalisa Kelly-Cavotta		Kyle Cole	X	Harry Johnston	X
Don Appleton	X	Mary Mulder	X	Meg Seltzer	X

Clergy: Tony Pompa

Richard called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm.

Spiritual Discipline

Don led Thanksgiving prayers from the Book of Common Prayer

Mission Conversation

The group discussed The Jesus Heist. Please read chapters 3 and 4 for the next meeting.

Mission Focus

Emergency Shelter.

Tony shared that the new central location for the Bethlehem Emergency Shelter- Christ UCC Church – was approved by the zoning board. Additionally, Tony shared the sad news two long-time shelter goers known to the Cathedral community - Mark and Wendy – died in the woods recently. Wendy had nicknamed Deacon Rodney- Deacon Bacon.

Approval of minutes

Werner made a motion to approve the October 2017 minutes. Kyle seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Committee Reports

Stewardship

Kyle provided an update on progress and giving to date. Tony provided a further update to the numbers Kyle had - noting that to date 136 pledges totaling \$396,340 had been received. This amount is up over last year and by Tony's estimate there are still 61 pledges and \$90,000 still out there. Tony provided a list of likely givers who had not yet returned a pledge card and the Vestry divided up the list for follow up calls to encourage those individuals to make a pledge. A script was provided for those conversations.

Nominating

Joe reported that the Nominating Committee (himself, Karen Boksan, Barbara Ianelli, Kim Plyer and Janet Kolepp) had met and generated a list of possible candidates for nominating, convention and vestry. The spots needed to be filled are Nominating Committee (3), Convention Delegates (3 and 2 alternates), Vestry (4). Tony reported that Susan Sartoretto is not able to stand for re-election. The Nominating Committee will be presenting the slate of candidates to Vestry prior to the January 28th meeting.

Finance/Budget

Don reported that total giving is behind budget- running at 76.6 percent total of the full year's budget and currently a \$37,000 shortfall. 4999 is our reserve line item. Don thinks we'll be ok although pledge income will be under budget. On the expense side, maintenance and utilities were under budgeted this past year and need to be look at closely for the upcoming budget cycle. Don then reviewed the schedule for the projected budget cycle. Harry will look into possible savings in the area of energy usage. Werner made a motion to approve the Finance Committee Report. Mary seconded the motion and the report was approved by the Vestry.

Property report

Richard reported that for the most part work on the parking lot is done. There was a small additional charge for cutting roots that needed specialized equipment. There will need to be re-marking in the lower lot to create more handicapped accessible spots and better turnaround options. Additionally, Jose Mendez found someone to do needed metal work to change to the gate to the thrift shop. The fire escape at the back of Sayre Hall needs to be repaired. Additionally, the city building inspector noted failure in the retaining wall by the Shawnee property. Additionally, Dick Guyer looked into a possible parking swap arrangement with Larry Eighmy for the upper parking lot. Dick found that there shouldn't be any tax exemption implications that would affect our county tax assessment. The Property Committee is looking into a possible swap of 15 spaces from 9 am until 5 pm, 5 days a week.

Bishop Search

Tony reported that in January he and his search committee will be on retreat with bishop candidates. Out of that retreat, 3 -5 candidates will be selected to be presented to the standing committee in February. At that point in time, much of the work will be turned over to the transition committee.

Emergency Housing

We welcome the Perez Family from Puerto Rico who have moved into the Deanery. The family was brought to our attention by the Hispanic Center of the Lehigh Valley. Our arrangement with them is a lease agreement with a gradual rent increase payment. The lease ends on August 1st. Special thanks to Carol Yale and Sibohan Ardizzone who made all of this happen so quickly.

Next Meeting

Due to Lessons and Carols scheduled for December 19th, our next Vestry meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 20th. A chaplain will no longer be needed for this abbreviated meeting. Dinner will be provided.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Boksan