

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting, November 18, 2007

Opening prayer: Fr. Clements.

Attending were: Fr. Clements, Alexis Dorf, Martha Baer, Martha Nesbitt, Roy Bickley, Cheryl Duntz, Tom Schindler, Mary Anne Carley, Linda Lloyd and Geoff Brown.
Absent was Jim Conzo.

Approval of the minutes of the October meeting: Alexis moved that the minutes be approved as circulated, contingent upon receiving a copy of the Convention Report from our Delegate to Convention, and Mary Anne seconded the motion. The minutes were approved subject to this condition. [NOTE: at the Vestry meeting held on January 20, 2008, it was noted that the minutes of the 2007 Diocesan Convention are available on the Diocese website, and thus the report of our Delegate is unnecessary. In view of this, the minutes of the October meeting were then approved.]

Reports:

--Treasurer: Martha Nesbitt circulated current financial statements. At present we are looking at a \$13.4M shortfall for 2007. Martha will advise Fr. Clements of any outstanding pledges, and he will follow up on them. Alexis noted that we need an organized stewardship program, and recommended one that she has been using in other parishes she has visited to run stewardship programs. Following discussion, the Vestry informally concluded that we should hold this program in January, culminating on the Sunday of the Annual Meeting. Alexis will forward the URL of the website of this program for the consideration of the Vestry.

The subject of the disposition of the funds represented by the CD freed up by Bob Reid's donation will be referred to the new Finance Committee for study, with the admonition that the terms of the Harwood Fund, the source of 50% of the funds, must be closely adhered to.

It was further concluded that Arete Warren and Alvin Wilkinson will be invited to join the new Finance Committee.

--Wardens: Neither Warden had a report.

--Buildings & Grounds: Jeff Silvernale will begin insulating the Rectory shortly. He and John Lloyd erected the new parish sign and moved the old sign around to indicate the entrance to Reid Field.

Continuing Business:

- Nursery care: There was no progress in finding a nursery care provider. Since we seem to be getting along without one, we will continue on the current basis until the situation changes.
- New sign: As noted above, the new sign has been erected. A copy of the permit for the sign is in Alexis' possession. Alexis noted that we will be obtaining "hangers" for the sign for numerous activities in the parish that are forthcoming. It was noted that the sign is sited back from the road due to zoning constraints, and that some tree pruning will be needed to enhance visibility.
- Christmas Bazaar: The Christmas Bazaar will take place as scheduled on December 1. All Vestry should plan on assisting.
- Pew Bibles: Roy reported that the Bibles have been ordered. Half of the cost has been paid and half will be due upon delivery of the Bibles.
- Christmas Pageant: The first rehearsal for the 65th annual Christmas Pageant will take place at 2 PM on December 1, following the Christmas Bazaar. Fr. Clements will provide a new script, taking into consideration that the Pageant will be presented on 4 Advent. Alexis has obtained 30 Birth of Jesus story cubes for Pageant participants.

New Business:

- Christmas outreach: Cheryl reported that she had surveyed needs for a Christmas outreach project, and recommended, based on perceived needs, that we focus on Falls Village, and in that community, that we focus particularly on the elderly.

Fr. Clements noted that Trinity Lime Rock is the parish nearest to Falls Village, and also that the parish has significant ties with that community. He will visit with the Social Worker for Falls Village shortly.

Vicar's Report:

Fr. Clements reported that the original donor of the electronic carillon had contacted him and offered to pay for the repair of that device. Fr. Clements has contacted the maker, who has no interest in repairing it but who referred to him to the original installer to see if he would be interested in doing the work. It would be played at noon if repaired.

Fr. Clements reported on two personnel/administrative matters.

He noted that the very successful Crescendo performance of Totentanz was marred by parking problems and by copying difficulties. Martha Baer, who is the Vestry delegate to Crescendo, will take these matters up with the Crescendo board

so that they can be resolved prior to the next concert by that organization at Trinity.

Fr. Clements noted that there is a need to improve control of keys to the building in the interests of improving security and also convenience.

Fr. Clements reported that attendance so far in 2007 has been 3116 versus 2362 in the same period in 2006. This is an improvement of 32%, and translates to an average increase in attendance of 16.7 people per Sunday.

He also reported briefly on possible alternative uses of Reid Field now that it is owned by Trinity. He recommended that whatever use is found, that space for soccer and parking, and for construction of a basketball facility to increase the scope of our recreational ministry, be included. The sense of the Vestry was that we should solicit suggestions from the entire parish.

The next meeting of the Vestry will be on Sunday, December 16.

Fr. Clements closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey Brown
Clerk of the Vestry