

Minutes of the June 15, 2008 Vestry Meeting

The opening prayer was led by Roy Bickley.

Present were: Fr. Clements, Tom Schindler, Geoff Brown, Al Dorf, Jane Canfield, Roy Bickley, Mary Anne Carley, Bob Reid, and Linda Lloyd.

Absent were: Martha Nesbitt and Martha Baer

Linda moved that the minutes of the May meeting, previously circulated, be approved. Al seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

Reports:

--Treasurer's Report: In Martha Nesbitt's absence, Al circulated the Treasurer's report. Notably, year to date, our revenues exceed expenses by \$303 versus a deficit for the same period last year of \$7300. Fr. Clements emphasized that we are entering the months when both attendance and contributions falls off, however. Bob moved that the report be accepted, and Roy seconded. The report was approved.

--Wardens Report: Linda reported that the donated stained glass window for the Altar of Repose will be a 3' x 3' Celtic Cross.

--Buildings & Grounds:

--Handicapped ramp removal status: Fr. Clements is securing bids for the ramp's removal. Other possible issues will be deferred pending receipt of the estimate.

--Annual exterminator service need: Discussion of the possibility of contracting for annual extermination service elicited the information that the tree blown down in the recent storm was filled with ants. The Buildings and Grounds Chair will be asked to get an estimate from Jim March with regard to annual extermination costs.

--Long Range Planning Committee: Due to the absence of Chair Martha Baer, there was no report from this committee.

Continuing Business:

--Episcopal Church sign project: Fr. Clements has secured the approval of the property owner to hang a new "The Episcopal Church Welcomes You" sign on the existing pole on Route 7.

--Copier replacement: There was no report with regard to the copier. However, since the needs of Crescendo for the copier considerably exceed those of the Parish, the possibility that Crescendo share in the lease price was suggested.

--Vestry retreat: The date of the Vestry Retreat was deferred one week to September 16. It will be held at St. Michael's in Litchfield as previously determined.

--Light box above altar of repose: The light box will be constructed by Gordon Gustafson, and Fr. Clements will wire it. This pends arrival of the stained glass window mentioned in the Warden's Report above.

--Building rentals: No new developments.

--Pet cemetery: Fr. Clements noted that it may be feasible to have a "water feature" as part of this installation. Bob suggested that we investigate a solar powered recirculating pump for any such capability.

New business:

--Phone replacement/line elimination: Al reported that we now have seven phone lines at Trinity, including one which is paid for by Crescendo. The consensus of all present was that the parish does not need more than two lines, one of which would be primarily for the Vicar, and the other shared between the Volunteers, the Fax machine, and the credit card terminal. Unless one additional line is required for the alarm system, it appears that we can eliminate four phone lines. At very least we can eliminate three. Al volunteered to undertake this project.

--Router upgrade: Al noted that there is a Comcast wire in the Vicar's office, and that he had previously donated a cable modem for it, but that the wire had never worked. The Vicar noted that there is a decent wireless signal in the parking lot. Accordingly, a service call for Comcast to make the line in the Vicar's office appears to be in order rather than an router upgrade.

--Tree removal: What may become a major project removing diseased and potentially hazardous trees will be evaluated subsequent to completion of the insurance claim for the fallen tree as well as the alarm panel, etc.

--Roof and plaster on inside of rear of church: This long-discussed topic will be added to the ongoing business for discussion at the next meeting at the request of Fr. Clements.

Vicar's Report: Fr. Clements noted that he frequently receives requests to rent the church as a wedding space. Under the circumstances, since we do not make this sort of rental, he has prepared a document with regard to Holy Matrimony at Trinity. The document is to be made available on the website, with a tab to facilitate access by those considering matrimony. The document will be updated to include a Sexton's fee shortly.

Fr. Clements inquired of Jane regarding plans for Emergency Services Sunday. She noted that since the fire departments will not have a conflicting convention this year, she hopes that our second Emergency Services Sunday will be bigger and better than our first.

Fr. Clements inquired of Linda regarding the Art Show. Linda pointed out that Trinity artists will need to help out this year due to conflicts in her schedule.

The next meeting of the Vestry will be held Sunday, August 17.

There being no further business to come before the Vestry, Fr. Clements closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey Brown
Clerk