

Minutes of the Vestry meeting 10/19/08

Present were Fr. Clements, Jane Canfield, Martha Baer, Martha Nesbitt, Mary Anne Carley, Geoff Brown, Al Dorf, Bob Reid, and Roy Bickley. Tom Schindler was absent.

Fr Clements offered the opening prayer.

Linda moved that the minutes of the Vestry meeting held at the Retreat be approved, and Martha Baer seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Martha Nesbitt provided the Treasurer's report. The financial statements for the Diocese are unfortunately still with the CPA, but are expected next month. Martha circulated three schedules regarding current year operations. First, a comparison of the first three quarters results with 75% of budget reveals that our current net deficit of \$10.9M is better than budget by approximately \$2.2M. The current operating income/expense report provides further details. A month by month income/expense analysis for the past five years indicates that the average deficit per month this year is \$1.2M. Discussion of areas for economies as well as other variances in the numbers ensued. It was concluded that the financial statements ought to be posted on the parish bulletin board for the enlightenment of the parish.

Linda Lloyd provided the Wardens' Report. She noted that she is working on a new parish directory that will be critically important for the forthcoming Stewardship campaign. She circulated the listing to the Vestry members to update their listings. She also noted that Juliet Mattila, one of the artists who had exhibited at the Trinity Art Show, had send in a post-show commission based on a sale she had made to a contact that had come from the show. It was noted that she may be sending another post-sale commission as well.

Four items were discussed under the continuing business category:

- Sunday School. Fr. Clements reported on his October 11 meeting with interested parents and volunteers for this effort. The current plan is to reinstate Sunday School at Trinity early in Epiphany. The program will begin with a 10AM children's chapel service, conducted by Fr. Clements. Young people will then spend around 45 minutes with volunteers doing crafts and related activities, joining the liturgy in progress at an appropriate time. Initially this will occur one Sunday per month, with the likelihood that it will be expanded to two Sundays if it proves viable.
- Animal memorial garden. Martha Baer reported that Lynn Gaffney has provided a sketch of a possible memorial garden – the sketch is now on the bulletin board. Fr. Clements responded to questions about how a memorial garden works with regard to interments, and an informal poll of Vestry members suggested that there are at least seven cremated animals waiting for burial in the garden when completed. Progress with this project will be posted on the parish bulletin board.
- Diocesan Convention Preview. Fr. Clements provided a summary of what is likely to be discussed at the Convention this year, and that anyone interested can follow the

proceedings via the Diocesan website. Geoff noted that he had heard from Tom Schindler, our Delegate to Convention, that he believes he will be able to attend and plans to do so.

- Stewardship. Considerable progress was made in moving this program forward. Fr. Clements has obtained The Reverend Kathryn C Keene to be our outside consultant for this project. He circulated her biography, as well as a graphic presentation of Trinity's membership, ASA, and revenues over the past few years. We will hold Consecration Sunday on December 7 with a parish meal; Linda will take arranging this in hand, assisted by Jane. We will have a special meeting of the Vestry next Sunday to discuss next steps and assign responsibilities. Finally, we will have an additional special Vestry meeting on Sunday, November 30 with Rev. Keene, accompanied by lunch, probably at Holley House. All Vestry members are to read the book before next Sunday.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned with a prayer by Fr. Clements. The next regular meeting of the Vestry will be November 16, but there will be special meetings of the Vestry on October 26 and November 30.

Respectfully Submitted,

Geoffrey Brown, Clerk