

Minutes of the Meeting of the Vestry
Of Trinity Church, March 15, 2009

Invocation: Fr. Clements delivered the invocation. Present were Fr. Clements, Bob Reid, Roy Bickley, Al Dorf, Jane Canfield, and Geoff Brown. Absent were Martha Baer, Pat Barton, Janet Walker, Linda Lloyd, and John Lloyd.

Approval of January minutes: Jane moved that the minutes of the January meeting be approved, and Al seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by voice vote.

Treasurer's report: In the absence of Treasurer John Lloyd, Fr. Clements distributed the financial statements, noting that the parish remains in the black for this year to date. Several discussions ensued, including ways to get AA to be more responsible in use of the building, how to get the altar rail strengthened so that its repeated removal and replacement – as well as the passage of 140 years – do not make it a hazard, and the role of Crescendo at Trinity. With regard to the altar rail, Fr. Clements will discuss the problem with Gordon Gustafson to see if it can be reinforced for safety reasons. Jane moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted as submitted, and Al seconded the motion. Roy amended the motion to note that the Treasurer was not present to answer questions about the report. The motion, as amended, was passed by voice vote.

Wardens' report: There was no Wardens' report. In the absence of the Senior Warden, Jane noted that the ECW plans to meet in the next two weeks to plan the Memorial Day Weekend tag sale. Al announced that the same day we will hold our annual Memorial Day cookout. Fr. Clements will offer the invocation at Lime Rock Park on that day as well. Jane also asked the Vestry to assist in determining the date of the Emergency Services Sunday this year. The conclusion was that Emergency Services Sunday will be held on September 27, 2009.

Old business:

--Stewardship – status: Al Dorf reported that with the addition of pledges recently received, the pledges now approximate the pledge budget. Brief discussion of newcomers and potential pledges ensued.

--Fundraiser for 2009: Since no additional suggestions for "small donations" parishioners can make to help defray parish expenses have been received, Fr. Clements will ask the bookkeeper to draw up a list of possible small donation items.

--Buildings and Grounds: With regard to buildings and grounds, it was noted that removal of the remaining standing tree fragment has now been accomplished, as has replacement of the large (and inoperative) water heater at the Rectory with a 50 gallon heater, which is now fully functional. Fr. Clements noted that since the snow cover is gone, the Buildings and Grounds chair may proceed to retain Allyn & Co. to make the State-mandated repairs to the well housing. For the parish cleanup day, the Vestry prefers April 25, with a rain date of May 2, and the Buildings and Grounds chair was asked to execute it. With regard to the roof repair in the Narthex, Fr. Clements noted that he has a plasterer lined up, but needs Vestry members to take an active role in this repair.

--Sunday School: Fr. Clements reported that the Sunday School continues to meet, although no teachers were available so it did not meet today. He also reported that we need to address the problem of young people remaining in Walker Hall and elsewhere in the building unsupervised during the 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist when (as today) Sunday School does not meet. He asked that the Vestry address this problem with the family as it would be a Safe Church violation. Geoff asked the Vestry's desires with regard to Easter egg dyeing this year and an Easter Egg hunt on Easter Day. Fr. Clements asked that he contact Denise Lancto to see if she will again be involved in this.

--Animal memorial garden: Fr. Clements announced that the committee for the Animal Memorial Garden will meet on March 21. The committee members are, in addition to Fr. Clements, Lynn Gaffney, Martha Baer, and Jane Cooke.

--Discernment committee: Fr. Clements announced that a discernment committee has been formulated, made up of Lynn Gaffney, Sue Kozlowski, Tom Schindler, and Emily DiMartino. He noted that an additional committee member would be desirable but that the present committee would be sufficient to proceed. He briefly outlined the process going forward.

New business:

--A scheduled update of vestry member subject-matter responsibilities was deferred as the Clerk had neglected to bring the current list of responsibilities.

Vicar's report:

--Fr. Clements requested that someone assume responsibility for mailing out the birthday cards to parishioners. Jane volunteered for the responsibility.

--Fr. Clements asked a Vestry member to take responsibility for advertising liaison with the Lakeville Journal, noting that since that organization has outsourced this function two weeks notice is needed in order to get ads in print in a timely manner. He will repeat last Easter's ad this year. The request will be repeated next meeting to attempt to get this underway.

Benediction: There being no further business to come before the Vestry, the meeting was adjourned with Fr. Clements offering a Benediction.