

Minutes of the Meeting of the Vestry  
Of Trinity Church, May 17, 2009

Fr. Clements offered an invocation. Present were Jane Canfield, Linda Lloyd, Fr. Clements, Bob Reid, Roy Bickley, Martha Baer, Al Dorf, Pat Barton, John Lloyd, Janet Walker, and Geoff Brown. It was noted that there were no absentees.

Approval of April minutes:

Linda moved that the April minutes be approved as circulated. Pat seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved by voice vote.

Treasurer's report:

John Lloyd distributed current financial statements, noting that we are now slightly behind last year financially. Roy commented on the unrealized loss shown as a negative value in the income section. It was suggested that this probably represented unrealized losses on the endowment, but John agreed to confirm that interpretation. Linda moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted subject to resolution of the question regarding unrealized losses, and Jane seconded the motion, which was approved by voice vote.

Wardens' report:

Linda provided the Wardens' report. She noted that Crescendo will be setting up the tables for the Tag Sale this Monday night, and asked all Vestry to support the sale by volunteering on Saturday if possible, and if not by at least appearing during the show. Linda also announced the steak cookout following the Tag Sale. She noted that our tradition is to have a picnic following the 10:30 AM service on Trinity Sunday, which falls on June 7 this year. Since Malcolm MacLaren, who has in past years donated the hamburger meat for this cookout, no longer owns a beef farm, Linda requested that the Vestry pick up this responsibility by each member bringing a pound of hamburger meat and rolls as well as a side dish. Linda asked that the Vestry support our parish birthday by inviting people to attend. She noted that Jane Tuttle is expected to visit from North Carolina for the festivities.

Old business:

--Stewardship – status:

Fr. Clements and John Lloyd will meet during the next two weeks to determine a current position with regard to our stewardship program.

--Fundraiser for 2009:

"Small Donations" progress. Fr. Clements noted that we have already received our first donation from the Small Donations program and hopes to receive others going forward.

He suggested that, since the Tag Sale is a principal fund raiser for the parish, that the Vestry invite people to attend. There was some discussion of the bicyclists who had been in the habit of attending but who did not appear last year. It was suggested that if they reappear, everyone should take the initiative to ascertain what club they represent and how to reach them so that we can keep them informed of what events we will be having when they come by.

Fr. Clements also announced that the parish had now raised over \$1000 for Church World Service's "Buy a Blanket PLUS" campaign, and that we would be funding construction of a water well in a third world village, with any overage to go to purchase of blankets. We will be receiving a photograph of the well and the village when the project is completed.

--Buildings and Grounds:

It was noted that the Rectory roof repair has now been completed, and that even after last night's torrential rainstorm no leaks were detected.

The Narthex roof repair is likely to be considerably more expensive. Fr. Clements noted that he has discussed the matter with the Buildings and Grounds chair, that they have surveyed local trades-people, and that the consensus is that none do roofing slate, and further that the two closest slate roofers are in Hartford and in New Haven. Fr. Clements will contact the roofer in Hartford to come and estimate our job the next time they visit Hotchkiss, where they maintain that school's slate roofs.

Fr. Clements also noted that the brass vase, damaged during the recent wedding, has been satisfactorily repaired.

--Sunday School:

The Sunday School today had six students and two adults. Traditionally the last Sunday School session of the year is Trinity Sunday.

With regard to our summer sports program, Geoff reported that soccer seems to have run its course with our young people. He recommended that we have volleyball for the kids during August, noting that he has secured a varsity volleyball player from Housatonic Valley Regional HS to help. He noted that there is an interest in T-ball for the younger kids. Following discussion, it was agreed that we would have T-ball in July and Volleyball in August. Pat Barton will investigate borrowing T-ball equipment from the Town of Salisbury. In view of Trinity Sunday on June 7, a Baptism on June 14, and the Bishop's visit on June 21, it was not appropriate to start the summer sports program until July this year.

--Prayer garden:

Martha reported that design of the Prayer Garden is now complete, and that estimates are now needed. She hopes to obtain these in the next few weeks.

--Discernment committee:

Fr. Clements reported that the Discernment Committee was holding its first meeting following the briefing by the Diocesan representation while the Vestry was meeting. He noted that the committee planned to complete its work by September. Following that, he will have a series of meetings with the nominee, followed by a meeting of the nominee with the Vestry.

Fr. Clements noted that now that Danielle is officially a "nominee" she will be expected to assume more roles in the services. It was suggested that she might serve as a Minister of Communion. It was also noted that the parish must plan to pay the Diocese \$600 at some point in the near future.

New business:

--Victory Garden:

A parishioner has suggested that the parish undertake some effort to encourage agricultural self-sufficiency and raise money in the process. It appears that, of the possibilities offered, the most viable is to hold a vegetable exchange at the end of the summer, where parishioners bring in produce and flowers from their own gardens and sell it to other parishioners. It appears that the most appropriate use of any funds raised would be to donate them to OWL's Kitchen. Fr. Clements will discuss this with Jose Orracca to see if he can organize the event.

Vicar's report:

Fr. Clements advised the parish that Christine Gevert's letter of agreement expires in June, and that he proposes to extend it for another year under the same terms. The Vestry will be called upon to ratify this when it was completed and had been reviewed by the Executive Committee.

Fr. Clements also advised the Vestry that we expect to have the Baptism of Francesca, Emily DiMartino's grand-daughter on June 14, and reminded the Vestry that the Bishop will visit us on June 21, and will meet with the Vestry following that service.

Finally, he noted that our current Average Sunday Attendance is now 65.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Roy moved that we adjourn. Fr. Clements offered a benediction.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey Brown, Clerk