

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Vestry
Of Trinity Church, April 18, 2010**

The Rev. Heidi Truax opened the meeting with a prayer. Present were Pastor Heidi, Linda Lloyd, Alexis Dorf, John Lloyd, Alan Swide, Janet Walker, Jane Canfield, Lynn Gaffney, Bob Reid, and Geoff Brown. Pat Barton was absent.

Alexis moved that the minutes of the March meetings be accepted as circulated, Linda seconded the motion, and the minutes were accepted by voice vote.

John presented the Treasurer's report. He reported that Trinity is the beneficiary of a bequest of \$13,400 from the estate of Marge Bethke, and that the will designated that the bequest was to be used 90% for church school and 10% for other church purposes. Following discussion, Alexis moved that the "Bethke Fund for Children's Ministries" be established as a vehicle to fund expenses associated with children's ministries at Trinity, to include Sunday School, summer sports, youth group activities, mission trips by young people, and other activities organized by Trinity for the young people of the parish. The fund will continue its existence from year to year as long as its resources remain. Linda seconded the motion, which passed by voice vote. In other matters, John distributed the current financial statements, which indicate the parish is more or less on course for the year. Geoff moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted, and Jane seconded the motion, which passed by voice vote.

Pastor Heidi then presented the Vicar's report. She began by distributing to all Vestry members binders, as well as a "Vestry Resource Guide" for all Vestry members to read. She asked that everyone read the first two chapters for the next meeting. She then conducted a short Bible study based on the Acts of the Apostles. The Vestry expressed concern that Pastor Heidi is not getting enough time away from the job and stressed the importance of taking care of herself.

The Wardens' reports followed. Linda noted that several new Ministers of Communion are coming online now, which should reduce the strain on the existing MOC group. She noted as well that the "washboard sign" authorized at the last meeting is now on order. She noted that the "Welcome Race Fans" hanger for the Trinity sign has gone missing, and asked all Vestry to search for it, while acknowledging the possibility that it may have been taken as a souvenir. Finally, she noted that Walker Hall has been rented for Saturday afternoon for a Confirmation party. Alexis' report is subsumed under the Buildings and Grounds committee report, below.

Committee reports followed.

Under Buildings and Grounds, it was proposed that a 135th anniversary fund drive, to be called, tentatively, the "135th Anniversary Trinity Face Lift", be undertaken to raise \$25,000 to fund the following projects: slate roof repair, interior plaster restoration, tree removal as necessary, repair of Walker Hall's entry roof, re-painting exterior of the new addition, repair of the handicapped ramp, and repair/reinforcement of the pews. The drive will be handled via general parish funds, as opposed to

becoming a separate entity. Pastor Heidi, Linda, and Alexis will compose an appeal to the Parish within the next two weeks. All Vestry members concurred in this project, and agreed to contribute to it to the extent their personal circumstances permit. It was noted that a commitment is already in hand to fund at least half of the cost of the roof repair.

Linda then moved that the Vestry approve on-demand hot water for Walker Hall bathrooms and kitchen (approximately \$1400), noting that the Vestry had already approved expenditure of up to \$1000 for this purpose, and noting that the installation will be funded from the general operating fund. Lynn seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote. The Buildings and Grounds Chair will be instructed to call Perotti Plumbing on Monday and ask them to proceed with the work.

The next discussion concerned the most critical portion of the "Trinity Face Lift" project. It was noted that bids have been received from two experienced vendors, and that the Buildings and Grounds Chair and Jeff Silvernale have visited work sites of both vendors, checked references, etc., and believe that either is well qualified to do the necessary work and further noted that the bids are very close. There was some preference noted for the Vincent Company bid due to a longer track record and the recommendation of the Diocese of New York, but that this vendor did not offer a guarantee, which the Olde Mohawk firm did. Following discussion, Lynn moved that the Buildings and Grounds Chair first contact the Vincent Company, determine if they are still available to do the work, and are willing to include a 15 year guarantee of their work in their contract. If they are not available or not willing to guarantee their work, the Buildings and Grounds Chair is to contact Olde Mohawk and determine if they are available to perform the work according to their bid, with the understanding that if there are reservations, then the Buildings and Grounds Chair is to negotiate with the two vendors the most satisfactory solution available. Linda seconded the motion, which passed by voice vote.

Youth and the Sunday School were the next committee reports. The Bethke bequest was discussed earlier under the Treasurer's report. Pastor Heidi noted that she and the Sunday School teachers will be conducting a Vacation Bible School this summer, tentatively from 9 AM to noon for one week during August. Geoff is also expected to provide sports activity for this group. Finally, the fact that we are the only Episcopal church in the area with any youth programs at all, but that we do not necessarily publicize them sufficiently was discussed. All present were asked to consider what additional youth programs we can offer, and how we can best publicize them.

Outreach was the next committee to report. Lynn reported that she had held an outreach committee meeting that morning, and that several parishioners had indicated an interest in participating on the committee. The initial question on the table for the committee is what outreach really means in the context of our parish mission statement "Companionship along the Way". Tentative views and plans of the committee are: (1) for our international focus, we should emphasize infrastructural and empowerment projects. (2) with regard to this, the "Bead for Life" project meets the "empowerment" test and will proceed with representation at the Tag Sale. There will be an outreach component to all of our major fundraisers going forward. (3) In the context of being present in the community, Jane asked if we could consider the not-for-profit first responders that serve Trinity, namely the Lakeville Hose

Company, the Falls Village Volunteer Fire Department, the Falls Village Volunteer Ambulance Corps, and the Salisbury Voluntary Ambulance Service could be considered. : (4) The question of a suitable logo or label for our efforts – and by extension for the parish itself – was raised. (5) An outreach calendar for the parish will be developed to ensure that we undertake our commitments at the appropriate times and do not over commit. (6) The Sunday School, represented by Callie Carter, with Lynn, will address the parish about the Beads for Life program next Sunday, which is a youth Sunday.

With regard to Sports, some concern was voiced regarding where we are with the Softball Challenge set for next Sunday. It was noted that the tee-shirts are here, but we do not yet know how many people we will need to feed, and if we need for Linda's father to join us to handle the feeding. Following discussion, it was concluded that the greatest flexibility in this regard could be gotten by ordering pizza that day for delivery, since quantities would not need to be determined until the players and spectators actually arrived. Geoff noted that Randy Orzano has been active in promoting parish participation in the Bishop's 5K for Kids. He also noted that the interests of the young people seem to be divided between bat and ball sports and volleyball at this time, and current plans are to offer both on each Sunday morning, subject to a survey of expected absences of families.

The following matters were discussed under Old Business:

The "Episcopal Church Welcomes You" signage subject was tabled indefinitely.

Jane Canfield reported that the Salisbury Sampler will announce First Responders Sunday shortly. She will meet shortly with Pastor Heidi with regard to next steps, which will include publicity in other papers, via invitations to various area volunteer services, via the website and the Trinity Update, as well as the May Trinity Times. It was noted that hospitality for that Sunday, May 16, will be "all hands on deck".

Following some discussion of funding sources and project design, it was concluded that the Labyrinth/Memorial Garden project should be tabled until the \$25,000 has been raised for the "Trinity Face Lift" project so as not to overload the parishioners with requests.

The following subjects were raised under New Business:

With regard to the Art Show, Linda noted that we are behind schedule for this year's show. Discussion revealed a sense that the definition of the show has become blurred in recent years, particularly as commercial art galleries have opened in the area, and as artistic tastes and estimates of visitor pocketbooks have ceased to be well synchronized. Also noted were the ramifications of the automatic acceptance of Trinity Artists and their families in the show. The perennial lack of volunteers for all aspects of the show was noted as a serious problem, and the Vestry concurred that all Trinity artists accepted in the show will be expected to volunteer for an absolute minimum of six hours. With the understanding that the Art Show may have finally reached the point that it needs to end, a plea for volunteers will appear in the Trinity Update will appear this week, with the agreement that the show will not be held if significant numbers of volunteers do not step forward. Lynn asked that, if the show does proceed, if it would be possible to hold an outreach fund raiser at the show opening.

With regard to Memorial Day Weekend festivities, noting that the Saturday evening barbecue and the Trinity Sunday Picnic serve different purposes and draw on two different populations within the parish, it was concluded that the Saturday evening function would continue as a steak cookout, and the Trinity Sunday picnic would revert to being a potluck lunch, without barbecuing.

Pastor Heidi asked that a section called "Concerns" be added to the agenda for Vestry meetings going forward. The initial concern she noted was that drivers to pick up and drop off residents of Trinity Glen who desire to attend Trinity seem to be in short supply. The question of who the residents of Trinity Glen are was raised, and it was explained that these are men and women in long-term drug and alcohol rehabilitation, generally following multiple relapses. This state-sponsored program is both long term (six months or more) and rigorous (for example, residents can only ride with volunteer drivers of the same sex, and should be signed in and out by the same person). A request for volunteer drivers in the Trinity Update will be made. Bob asked if the Geer Village bus might be available on Sunday mornings for this purpose, and will look into it shortly.

Finally , Pastor Heidi reminded the Vestry that Marge Bethke's memorial service will be Friday at 2 PM at Geer, and expressed hope that many from the parish will attend.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Pastor Heidi closed the meeting with a short prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey Brown, Clerk