

**Minutes of the Meeting  
Of the Vestry of Trinity Lime Rock  
Sunday, May 15, 2011**

Present at the meeting were the following: The Rev. Heidi Truax, Janet Walker, the undersigned, Alan Swide, Jim Conzo, John Lloyd, Bill Kellett, Martha Baer, and subsequent to her election, Danielle Gaherty. Absent were Alexis Dorf and Lynn Gaffney.

As scheduled in the published agenda for the meeting, following an opening prayer by Pastor Heidi, Bill moved that Danielle Gaherty be elected to fill the Vestry position vacated by Pat Barton in the Class of 2011 for the remainder of the term. Jim Conzo seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote. Following her election, Danielle was invited to join the meeting.

Pastor Heidi then led the Vestry in Bible study, continuing our study of the Book of Esther with Chapter III.

Martha then moved that the minutes of the April meeting be approved as circulated and amended, and Jim seconded the motion, which passed by voice vote. Janet made a recommendation that Vestry minute books maintained by each Vestry member be passed along to the Vestry member assuming the position on the Vestry. The members present concurred that this was a good idea.

### Reports:

John then presented the Treasurer's report, which had previously been circulated to Vestry members. While there was only one suggestion with regard to the report – that the Other Assets category called "Reid Field development" be consolidated with the "Land and Land Improvements" category of Fixed Assets since the retirement of the note took place more than a year ago, several other matters arose.

Bill suggested that we consider objectives for the Bethke Fund, since to date we have handled it as a means for funding such needs as Vacation Bible School, payment of the nursery care person, purchase of a Sunday School curriculum, etc. with no formal policy with regard to its use. Bill also questioned the use of Wells Fargo Bank to negotiate donated securities as it may be possible to have this done for lower charges. John agreed to pursue various possibilities in this regard.

Janet then inquired what advice we give parishioners who wish to remember Trinity in their wills in the way of funds to which money can be directed, including objectives of the funds. These comments opened a discussion that had not been held at Trinity since the Rev. Mitzi Noble was Rector but was felt by all present to deserve an airing, particularly as our parish finances continue to improve and as the parish continues to grow. The consensus was that we ought to be encouraging "planned giving" and that we ought to be going about it in an orderly way. It was also the consensus that we ought to compile a list of funds or needs or other opportunities for planned gifts. It was the general feeling of the Vestry that this ought to be part of the Stewardship cycle and should take place in the Fall when we do our annual Stewardship campaign. It was felt to be important that Trinity be prepared with a legal professional who could face off against estate planners working on expressing the wishes of a potential donor, and that one of our members who is an attorney could be asked to assume this responsibility.

Bill then moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted, and Jim seconded the motion, which passed by voice vote.

There was no Warden's report.

Pastor Heidi then delivered the Vicar's report. She noted that, year to date ASA is 69 versus 63 last year, including Easter in the calculation for both years.

She circulated an incident report form, revised to collect information about witnesses, and, before making copies generally available, will add "organization" to the form to capture information regarding under whose auspices the incident occurred.

Pastor Heidi then opened the subject of the Parish Picnic on Trinity Sunday. She expressed a desire to have people attend who are not already members of the parish family, and following discussion it was agreed that a list of outsiders in Lime Rock and Falls Village ought to be compiled and postcards mailed to them inviting them. Geoff noted that he has had no response from the Northwest United Soccer Club with regard to their board attending the picnic, and that he will pursue to matter directly with the departing Chairman of that organization. Several Vestry members articulated a desire to have the soccer pitch developed and expressed a hope that the relocation of the present Chair of NUSC will not jeopardize the project.

Pastor Heidi also suggested the Trinity Sunday Picnic as a possible venue for a ministry fair, where activities within and associated with the parish might have tables and discuss their activities with parishioners and guests who are not currently involved in them. While several suggestions were made, no conclusive action was reached on this suggestion. Alan noted at this point that WMHT had recently played portion of Crescendo's recent recording of the Zelenka concert and had credited Trinity as the venue.

Young People: The observation was made that one problem we are having increasing the number of young people at Trinity is rooted in the schools our current youth members attend. While asking schoolmates to attend Sunday School seems to be a usual way new kids are acquired, four of our young people in an age range where kids do invite other kids do not attend local schools and thus cannot easily invite other local kids.

Outreach: With regard to Outreach, the Vestry was reminded that Lou and Katrina Piezzo are holding an Outreach Committee meeting next Sunday.

Buildings and Grounds: While there was no formal Buildings and Grounds report, it was noted hat the inoperative bank of lights in Walker Hall has been repaired. In the matter of the telephone wires between the church and the Rectory, next steps are still to be determined. Alexis and Judy Brown will take the matter in hand when Alexis returns from her vacation.

## Old Business:

Emergency plan: No progress was reported this month, except for the minor updates shown below:

--Inventories: hope to address after tag/bake sale

--Safe:

- Digitizing records: process continues slowly
- Evacuation plan/fire drill: will be held during the summer, possibly on Trinity Sunday, with the incident report announced to the parish at that time
- Parish phone tree: no action

Labyrinth: No progress was reported on the labyrinth. The vestry concluded that we remain highly interested in proceeding with the project, and determined that at the September meeting the following deliverables are expected: timeline, plan, and cost estimate.

Rental of premises (including field): Some progress was noted in this area, including a wedding this Saturday with a reception in Walker Hall. A proposal has been made to the Friends of Beckley Furnace, Inc., to host a wine and cheese reception for a book signing but no response has yet been received. The possibility of using the field for a mounted games competition was broached with the New York/Upper Connecticut Region of the United States Pony Clubs and with the organizer of the Can-Am Pairs Competition of Mounted Games Across America, Inc., but lack of stabling appears to be the issue in the latter case.

Janet inquired whether local caterers are aware that we rent out Walker Hall, and we ascertained that we need to take additional steps in this direction.

## New Business:

Art Show: In this regard there was no report, but two Vestry members noted that they had heard indications that invitations to participate are currently being extended to artists.

Tag/bake sale, including active participation by all Vestry members, was emphasized. Geoff will contact the New York Cycle Club to confirm that we are on their itinerary for their Memorial Day Weekend Berkshires Ride.

It was noted that an alcohol resolution was needed for the parish cookouts Memorial Day weekend, in connection with the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, and Labor Day weekend, and, should any parishioners bring their own wine, for the Trinity Sunday Picnic. Jim moved and Alan seconded a motion that the Vestry approves alcohol at these functions. The motion passed by voice vote.

Concerns: The following topics were mentioned under concerns:

- Bill pointed out the importance in emphasizing our strengths as a parish and the successes we have had with musical offerings in the past. He expressed a desire to have more musical activities, including concerts by outsiders, at Trinity. The desire was not to burden Christine with additional concerts to arrange, but to bring more attention to what is already the strongest musical program in this corner of the state and well beyond.
- John referred to some material he had circulated with regard to a government funded initiative that might provide us with a financial advantageous means of installing solar panels on the roof or in the field. After discussion of possible ramifications and the critical importance of ensuring the vendor was reputable, the Vestry asked John to arrange for an evaluation of our site by the vendor as long as it did not obligate us.

- Danielle addressed the long-standing problem with lack of closet space and the cramped conditions the choir robes in. She suggested that the present choir alcove might be extended into the Barnum closet, and that a wall of closets might be build in the Guild Room. It was also suggested that the Guild Room could be converted to a choir room and the present choir alcove and Barnum closet be used for storage.

Next meeting: June 12 (following service at Congregational Church). Bill Kellett graciously invited the Vestry to meet at the Kellett residence since it is just down the street from the Congregational Church.

There being no further business to be transacted, Danielle moved that the meeting be adjourned and Jim seconded the motion.

Pastor Heidi led he vestry in a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey Brown, Clerk

### **Currently Tabled items:**

- Online Giving project
- Uncommitted Emergency Plan deliverables
- Moving Pastor Heidi to fulltime status
- Develop strategy for young people/Sunday School
- NUSC (pending their response)