



Holy Family Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting Minutes December 20, 2023

Attending: Fr. Bruce Gray, Senior Warden Tom Clines, Junior Warden Bethany Paden, Ben Paden, Chris Beldin, Jessica Largent, Katie Hamon, Kristine Canter, Jolene Johnston, Ruth Everett, Susie Beard, Stephen Beard, and Sharon Naatz.

The Zoom meeting was called to order approximately at 7:07 p. m. with prayer led by Father Bruce.

Big Little Wins

- Susie Beard thanked the support for SATS and overwhelming support for Angel Tree donations.
- Kay and Carol also a great help in delivering snacks, today that was a last minute ask and had several nice donations.
- Greening of the church went well. Thanks to the Brotherhood for the dinner and approximately 20 people attended, not counting the cooks in the kitchen.
- 60 people attended the St. Nicholas Breakfast, while 39 was involved at Cookies and Carols night.
- Newcomers including Katie who brought her family, who had been watching on-line.
- Teresa Pierce and others returned to visit after some time away. It was great to see them again.
- The new wine came in and after a lot of work it took to get it!

What's in the parish gossip chain that needs to be aired out?

- Action Survey, comments had an undertone of dissatisfaction with a desire for more challenging instead of easy breezy come and go. Those feelings might not be resolved yet and Bethany will send a list of comments alone without the graphs to get the sense of what the comments are suggesting. Might be able to be organized by section per comment, most without signatures and tether comments throughout sections.
- Volunteers needed from the congregation, instead of the vestry or staff or same 10 people. Could address some of the dissatisfaction in the comments section of the survey or at least increase comprehension of how many people are needed to run the church and building.

Old & New Business

- The stewardship drive is underway, and pledges are coming in at the same amount they pledged before. This upcoming Sunday morning is the last time we have the Stewardship prayers.
- The Stewardship Committee will be writing Thank you notes for pledges, which they volunteered to do. Blessing of the pledges were prayed over the plate.
- The finance committee will draft the budget which will be shared at the January meeting. Basically, it will be a stretched budget the same as other years.
- The Nominating committee is working diligently on getting vestry positions filled. Matt is interested in being involved. Also, Dan Chillemi, Susie Beard and Joel Asmus might participate. Requirements for vestry quick summary: have to be baptized, a donor and active member, and 2/3rd of vestry have to be confirmed. Always a 3-person rotation. So not a full new version of vestry.

- Winter Art Program will be January 27th to March 8th on Saturdays, 10 am to noon. A very good program and topics are set for each week. Art teacher is very flexible on meeting requirements for each parish. Holy Family is responsible for space, snacks, and providing two adults for each class to be present to assist. The point person is Cathy Gray. Sign up after the first of year. The two adults have to go through Safeguarding which is training to prevent child abuse to be taken every 3 years. Ideal kid populations is Susie Beard's reading classes, middle school ages and limit to 12 children per class.
- The Strategic Plan is being edited by Father Bruce and will be on track to be presented at the Annual meeting. Will present survey information at that time also.
- Copier was cleaned and new bulletins are much clearer.

Other new or old Business

- Bishop will be visiting Holy Family in mid-February, the 18th. First Sunday in Lent. Bishop to meet with vestry at a separate meeting if needed.
- Onyx East was asked about and 2nd week in January a meeting that Fr. Bruce and Dan will attend with developer. To be put under consideration will be different future revenue streams like keeping four units and having funds with each renter (have to consider upkeep and maintenance) or selling the four units outright and investing the earnings from the sale.

Finance and Budget

- Still down on monthly income. Everything is relatively online with Ben's and Betty's predictions of how the year will end. Pledge reports will go out next year. There is an expectation of pledges made for this year can be paid in the next fiscal year. 100% of open alms are being completed, which indicates new people are giving.
- No major expenses needed for this year. It's not extremely rosy but we're not sinking either.
- Donations available on the website but does cost the fee. The diocese website also available to donate fee-free but has a drop-down menu that people are not aware and then that money goes directly to Diocese and not the Holy Family. Information will be given out at the Annual meeting.
- Net worth report is good to keep in mind when looking for an off set for expenses. RBC (Royal Bank of Canada) is where our Railroad track money was invested.
- Ben is working on several relationships to discuss various aspects of church management. For example, Sullivan Hale whom he was involved with as Senior Warden. Matt Oberson will be helping with getting some AV equipment optimized. Also, Jacob Spangler, will be assisting Ben on the financial side.
- Ben will be full treasurer by January 1st and some changes will be made, so grace and patience is asked for in the switch.

Rector's Report

- The Clerk will be determined at the vestry retreat. The minutes person can be separate from the clerk. It can be two separate positions.
- November minutes were never approved. Chris Beldin made motion to approve the minutes, Jessica Largent seconded, and vestry voted "aye". Minutes for November were approved.

- The Admin door was adjusted and was fixed so it does not open.
- The light fixtures just need four unique bulbs. Easy to replace. Banner was put out and light shining on it was checked to make sure it is clear.
- Sanctuary lights need to be adjusted, and they will not turn on.
- Card for Lorri needed to thank her for greening donation.

The meeting ended with an evening prayer led by Fr. Bruce at 8:36 p.m.

Next Vestry meeting is Wednesday January 17th, 7:00 p.m.