

Vestry Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 10, 2013, 4:00 pm
Rector's Study

Present: The Reverend Patricia Rome Robertson, presiding; Maude March, Nancy McCormick, Phyllis Partridge, Linda Lewis.

By phone: Don Graves, Jackie Lowe, James Clunan, and Stephen Mahoney

By Skype: Arthur Keller

The Rev. Patricia Rome Robertson opened the meeting at 4 PM

Opening Prayer from *Considering Prayerfully Those in Poverty*, said by all. (From BCP p. 826) A brief discussion on how this meeting will help those in poverty and how can we help those in need.

Currently The Stroud Fund is used to help those in need. How will we respond to our bishops challenge, that all vestries' and parishes help those in poverty?

Part I of Congregational Leadership in Anxious Times was discussed.

The function of anxiety and how we manage it as leaders.

- The author makes his point several ways in part 1.
- avoid the sin of pride, not to worry that we don't have all the answers
- do not act without thinking
- Be honest about what you are thinking.
- keeping things in context and remaining calm and not invoking anxiety
- the media can twist things
- keep focused on what we are doing

There followed a discussion on keeping the parish informed during the search process. Even if you don't make the goal you set it is OK as long as you keep everyone informed about what is happening. This helps to keep anxiety down and reflection up. Phyllis and Maude will inform the congregation often, on committees' progress.

Patricia mentioned we all have anxiety and react to it differently. One tactic to avoid responding while under anxiety is to tell the person you would like to think about it and then you will get back to them. Take time to relax and reflect before responding. The instant response is the same with email. Keep email overnight before responding. If the email has an emotional tone to it, wait before responding. Sometimes it is better not to respond at all. Know yourself and how you react to anxiety.

General consensus was everyone liked it and it is an easy read.

Part II for the meeting on February 28th, The Leader's Functioning.

Approval of November 15, 2012 Minutes:

A motion to accept was made by Linda Lewis and seconded by Phyllis Partridge. The motion passed unanimously.

There was a discussion presided over by Maude March concerning the information from Vickie Wiederkehr reported on by Maude:

- Expedited process - is the short process and the alternative process for use is the very short process. Arthur - Time table should be more specific than what she sent out.
- Congregations in transition, track 2 - doesn't seem to track well. Arthur feels the vestry should drive the time table not Vickie. Vickie has not helped with the search with the rector still in place. It works well for us as we are in a stable time, we have the unity of purpose until we get a transition minister in place.
- Alternative schedule- We may need to change some things, but it looks like it has less room for floundering about.
- Transition Priest in Charge – is here while we do the search and cannot be priest in charge or rector
- Priest in Charge – Can call a priest in charge for a specified amount of time, then the Priest in charge can become the rector.
- Patricia mentioned as long as the priest is approved by the Diocese you could call a rector and not have a priest in charge. (this needs to be checked with Vicki)
- The advantage of a Priest in Charge is you don't have to go through a long process to not renew the contract.
- Concerns that the Priest in Charge would not be willing to stay long term as rector.
- They would have to be willing to stay as rector if we like them.
- They may be unwilling to move if they don't have the option to stay for a long period of time.
- The job description should be what we are looking for: Rector or Priest in Charge. Requirement of a Priest in Charge is he/she would have to be willing to take over as rector. These issues should all be discussed with Vickie Wiederkehr.
- There is flexibility in the process and this makes the process desirable.
- Once we see the candidates we may be able to make that decision and not have to worry about what to do.
- ST. Saviour and St. Andrew and St. John did the same process, only that they couldn't do anything until their rector left.
- In some ways we are a pilot process for the Diocese. No one has ever done this before while the rector is still here.
- A three month period for the position be posted
- Discussion of advertising before Patricia leaves, Patricia is ok with advertising before she leaves.
- Bottom line is to have the profile.

Finance:

Budget: Amend budget to:

Change pledges back at 165 instead of 170. Being conservative. Hard to keep pledges coming in during transition. Leadership Fund will be \$13900 instead of \$8999. (5% recommended by Lauri Fernald for the Endowment distribution)

A motion to accept this budget as amended for the Annual Meeting was made by Arthur Keller and seconded by Jackie Lowe. The motion passed unanimously.

Election of Nancy Ho to serve as Centennial Fund Trustee:

Nomination was made by Maude March for Nancy Ho to serve a 5 year term as Centennial Fund Trustee, and seconded by Phyllis Partridge. The motion passed unanimously. She is replacing Sally Merchant who just finished her second 5 year term. The group agreed that thanks needed to be conveyed to Sally via a letter from the Vestry and acknowledgement at the Annual Meeting.

Stroud Requests:

Applicant #2: \$500 (\$500 for fuel) Heather will speak to Durlin Lunt to make sure the Town will assist in January and upon approval by the Vestry the applicant will receive fund for fuel in February.

Applicant #3: \$1,500 for the staffing needs of the after school Youth program

Applicant #5: \$892 for two months of mortgage payments.

Patricia's Discretionary Fund: \$1,850 (\$350 of the total will go to applicant #2 immediately for grocery needs).

Campfire Coalition: \$2,000

A motion to accept was made by Linda Lewis and seconded by Nancy McCormick. The motion passed unanimously.

Also old business from the Stroud Committee: It was previously recommended to help pay dental work for an applicant in the amount of \$2240.00 but Vestry approval does not appear in any minutes. This amount will go out at different times when the applicant gets the work completed. Motion to approve this work was made by Maude March and seconded by Nancy McCormack. The motion passed unanimously.

New Stroud members will be voted on at the Annual Meeting Part I, January 27, 2013.

Nominations: Scott Planting and Joe Renault

Search Process Calendar:

Need committee to start profile process:

Scope of the profile process:

1. Review old profile, Things achieved and how and what hasn't been achieved, How the profile reflects us as we are today. New goals
2. Question the congregation to see what they need.

Pick the committee and then plan the process.

Survey entire congregation by harbor chart or survey monkey.

Gather data then collate it. The profile will not be sent to a printer. It will be designed and posted on our website; it will be a recruiting tool.

Very important to get one person of the really young families to be involved. Maude and Linda will talk to the young families at house church.

Committees needed:

- Profile
- Transition
- Discernment
- Holy Conversations

Profile Committee

Linda Lewis (organizer until she leaves in three weeks)

Young Family member

Peter Vaux

Jackie Lowe

Consultants: Phyllis Partridge, Maude March, Dorothy Clunan, Nancy McCormick and Axie Diana

The profile committee will meet Thursday, January 17. Time to be determined.

Discernment Committee

Arthur Keller

Ongoing Mission Efforts reported by Maude March:

Update on the childcare/parent relief initiative:

- Parent's relief – was a success, 12 children attended and some from outside the parish. Maude will talk to the families about another one.

Community Holy Conversation effort -from the Bishop

(Rector, vestry member and community member... Donald Graves would like to ask Nancy Ho.)

Don will contact Nancy about joining. Then Patricia will let the bishop's office know who the team is.

Rector's Report

Buildings and Grounds

Peter Vaux doesn't want to be involved anymore. Joe Renault has concerns how people interact with Izaak. Maude and Patricia will speak with Joe and see if he would be willing to strategize with Izaak on what needs to be taken care of.

Nomination committee will think about the vestry person who will be on Buildings and Grounds. A vestry member is needed.

Communication / electronic and otherwise

Website and Facebook

Patricia has been the designer of the changes made to the website. It is now up to date. Someone will need to be in charge of sending current information and someone else will have to set up a face book page after Patricia leaves. It was recommended to ask the congregation if they would like to take the website over.

Travel Plans – Jan. 28-Feb. 5 Seattle

Annual meeting agenda: presented. Wardens and Patricia will work out the details for that agenda.

Vestry Retreat Date in June

Everyone who is on vestry should make an effort to attend. Request to have it prior to the 17th of June. (June 1, 8, or 15)

George Robertson is receiving the life time award in computer science at a conference in Paris at the end of April. Patricia will be going with him. She will let us know about the dates when they are confirmed.

Nancy wanted to know what the response has been since she had announced her retirement. Everyone very gracious, they didn't want her to leave, but are excited about the possibilities. Patricia was anxious that people might be angry with her but that hasn't happened.

There was a brief discussion that a mid career priest would bring new energy to the parish and Phyllis Partridge remaining on the vestry. Phyllis has been filling in for a vestry member that resigned.

Closing Prayer:

Considering Prayerfully those in Poverty: Closing Prayer

Adjournment 5:57 pm.

Next meetings: **January 27, Annual meeting part 1 after worship**
 Feb. 24, special meeting with Vickie Wiederkehr 10:30 am
 Feb. 28, Reg. vestry meeting

Respectfully submitted,
Kerry Kenney
Parish Administrator