

Grace Episcopal Church
Minutes of September 9, 2008 Vestry Meeting

Vestry Present: Hank Caby, Katie Compton, Rebecca Harrison, Janet Heyer,
Michelle Huber, James Krakowski, Denise Miller, Jim Moore,
Carlos Nunez, David Willard

Vestry Absent: John Cullinane, David Jayne, Weezer Wier

Clergy: Rev. John Dunn, Rev. Emily Davis

Guests: Treasurer Tim Engelbrecht
Search Committee Chair Dick Entenmann

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. with a prayer by Fr. Dunn.

Rebecca Harrison reported that the web calendar is now 100% up.

Search Committee

Dick Entenmann reported that he is anticipating a list of potential candidates by October 1st and shortly thereafter the Parish Profile and other relevant materials and questions will be sent to prospects. Once the responses are received, the Search Committee will select two to four names to be presented to the Vestry for its consideration.

He requested that the Vestry study the Parish goals with an eye to determining the best way to interview candidates and make a decision.

Senior Warden Willard presented a pattern for looking at steps to reach each goal and requested that Vestry members discuss the goals with their various committees to determine what role each ministry might play in moving toward the goals.

Carlos Nunez suggested that the Vestry hold a special meeting in two weeks to develop a strategy and process to use in making a decision. He also suggested that the goals be shared with the congregation.

Denise Miller moved and Katie Compton seconded that the Vestry hold a special meeting on September 23 for the purpose of discussing the Parish goals. Passed.

In response to a question about the ability of the laity to influence sermon content, Fr. Dunn reminded the Vestry that by Canon Law, sermons are the purview of the Rector alone.

Note: The Parish Profile is now on the web.

Interim Rector's Departure

In accordance with church custom, the current Interim Rector will depart once communications have begun with prospective Rectors. At that time, a regular supply priest will be needed to be on site and run the Parish full time until a permanent Rector is on the scene.

Jim Moore moved and Denise Miller seconded that we honor the request to terminate the interim and that our interim Rector John Dunn celebrate his last Sunday with us on October 12 and depart on October 15. The motion passed.

Senior Warden Willard will announce Fr Dunn's departure date to the Parish on Sunday, September 14. He has asked Jeanie Davis to chair a group to plan for Fr. Dunn's farewell.

Grounds & Building

Senior Warden Willard presented an extensive picture report pointing out the deteriorating condition of parts of the grounds and building. A plan is needed to address these needs some more urgent than others.

Junior Warden James Krakowski will recruit a committee to come up with a plan for addressing the problems. He already has received a bid for removal of a tree and some limbs and vines. An anonymous donor has offered to pay the cost of this work.

Financial Report

Treasurer Tim Engelbrecht reported that pledge income is good and expenses are slightly under budget, but the Invest in Grace campaign is seriously below the hoped-for amount. It was anticipated that \$24,000 might be raised through this effort, but so far only \$11,000 has been pledged.

David Willard moved and Janet Heyer seconded acceptance of the Treasurer's report. Passed.

The minutes of the August 12, 2008 meeting were approved as corrected.

Fr. Dunn reported that the new receptionist has begun work three days a week for approximately 20 hours per week. He said she is well qualified for the position.

Janet Heyer offered to write a note of thanks to Diane Willis for organizing the Kick Off event on September 7, 2008.

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Jim Moore asked for guidance regarding the lack of Weezer Wier's attendance at vestry meetings. Senior Warden Willard will contact Mr. Weir to see if he is willing and able to continue Vestry service.

Carlos Nunez moved and Janet Heyer seconded adjournment at 8:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Shirley Browne, Secretary