

St. Thomas Episcopal Church Vestry Minutes for April 17, 2018

Present: Fr. Ted Koelln, Bette Dufour, Rick Kiefer, Diane Mullen, Joan Allen, Thelma Martin, George Pawliczak, Nancy Conley and Beverly Cox.

Not Present: Gail Carlson

Fr. Ted opened the meeting by reading a prayer of thanksgiving at 7:00 pm.

Treasurer's Report:

The final Treasurer's Report for March was reviewed. Bette explained that there is a new line item 5175 Thrift Shop Restricted Utilities as there is a parishioner paying for part of this expense. She also explained that the Warner bequest funds now in General Checking will be moved in April to the Music Endowment Fund. She has had several questions and suggestions about moving General Memorial funds to generate more interest. But it is a memorial fund and we would need to get permission from all donors to move them. It was decided not to do that at this time. Rick Kiefer motioned to accept the report, Joan Allen seconded, and the motion passed.

Minutes:

The minutes from the March meeting were reviewed. There is one correction to the spelling of Fr. Ted Koelln's name. Joan Allen noted that we appear to be leaving a lot for a new priest. It was noted that employment decisions belong to the priest. Beverly Cox expressed concerns about job descriptions. This too should be left to a new priest. Nancy Conley motioned to accept the minutes with the spelling correction. Rick Kiefer seconded and the motion passed.

Interim Rector's Report:

Fr. Ted reported that he believes that all is going pretty well. The Lenten Program did well and he is planning to put together a similar once-a-month program with a meal after Pentecost. Holy Week and Easter went well. Bette Dufour recommended that we give notice when we use incense during a service for those with respiratory problems.

Fr. Ted is planning on doing an instructional service on July 1st at both services. Bette suggested that we announce this in the newspapers and Fr. Ted suggested we invite friends and neighbors.

Old Business:

Betty Dufour and April (Diane) Mullen signed signature papers for the Wells Fargo Account. At this time, all accounts have appropriate signatures.

New Business:

Bette reviewed the recommendations listed on the Audit Report. Jack Geeslin feels that there is no need to pay for an outside audit prior to calling a new priest. One

recommendation is to remind all who deal with money to be diligent about cash on the premises and to keep a minimal amount less than \$100. The report noted the need for a VISA card for church purchases, but we currently have accounts at Publix, ACE Hardware, Bayes Janitorial Supplies and Lowes. For now, this is all we need.

Bette discussed the Search Committee's recommendations and made a motion to determine by the December 18th Vestry meeting whether to borrow money from ourselves and how much in order to balance the budget. Jerry Fields has been asked to coordinate fundraising efforts and we should have those results by then. Also due to the letters about pledging, four parishioners have changed or added.

Church Campus maintenance was discussed. The first problem is fleas in the basement of Wisdom Hall and perhaps in the church itself. Lisa Labud will contact Massey. Beverly Cox volunteered to spread borax to see if that would help.

Diane Mullen announced that Nancy Conley and Ann Johnson have volunteered to spring clean the Narthex and Sanctuary. They will be working on Thursday, April 26 at 12:30 pm and on Tuesday, May 1 at 9:00. Fr. Ted will ask for other volunteers in next Sunday's announcements.

There was a discussion about window box water damage and holes in the windows. George Pawliczak will have a look at these to see if anything can be done. The Altar Guild will be reminded to be careful about watering.

Bette discussed the need for Lisa to get three estimates to repair and/or replace the AC ductwork in the church. Bob's, Harris and St. Louis were recommended for estimates. Bette moved to approve the repair/replacement via email in order to get this taken care of as soon as possible. Rick Kiefer seconded, and the motion passed.

Rick Kiefer reminded all to use common sense about supplies such as toilet paper and paper towels, etc. Supplies need to be stored in a safe place.

Diane Mullen reported about visits to Eustis Elementary and Eustis High. There will be an Educator Appreciation Open House at the Thrift Shop on Wednesday, April 25 from 2:30-4:30. Eustis Elementary has provided us with a list of school supplies needed. They may also request up to ten Thanksgiving baskets. Eustis High may request outreach funds for clothing and food for needy students. EHS also agreed to provide us some students needing community service hours for our work days.

Rick Kiefer announced he would have an update of the Patriot Program scheduled for June 30 at the next meeting. He has scheduled another organizational meeting for 9:00 am on Sunday, April 22nd.

Bette Dufour reported that she read a survey about churches that stated that people want a sermon related to them and with a message, and that they wanted volunteer opportunities.

Thelma Martin reported that she has had only one notification since last month for pastoral care.

There were concerns about the long prayer list. Fr. Ted and Lisa will work on this.

Bette has had several questions about Children's Church. It requires two trained people and there are no volunteers at this time.

For stewardship, Bette reported that 4 people have changed or added since the letter went out to all parishioners.

George Pawliczak discussed the need for a rubber gasket at the front door of the church to help keep the water out.

Bette Dufour discussed the problem with the Memorial Garden being a Pokémon hot spot. Bette will call City Council member Linda Bob about it and Diane Mullen will talk with council member Carla Thompson. If this does not help, Lisa will contact the Eustis Police Department.

The Vestry discussed the plans for the Sunday School Building. We will use the prior written plan and do as much as we can, such as scraping ceilings and getting rid of unneeded items, until we have available funds for bigger projects.

Beverly Cox brought to our attention a liability concern about trees on a neighboring property. If they fall it would take out power to the Sunday School Building. Bette will discuss with Lisa and write a letter of concern to the property owner(s).

George Pawliczak motioned to adjourn, Thelma Martin seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

Fr. Ted closed the meeting at 8:27 pm with a reading about the presence of God.

Respectively submitted,
Diane Mullen