

MINUTES OF THE VESTRY OF ST. ANDREW' EPISCOPAL CHURCH,
DENVER, CO, MEETING AT THE CHURCH ON FEBRUARY 1, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 6:42 p.m. Jim Anthony and Tim Krueger were absent. Present were Richard DeTar, Eric Frame, Elizabeth Randall, Rich Rinehart, Lynn Hardcastle, Steve Grupe, Steve Medema, George Magnuson, Judie James, Susan Trickett, Janice Burley, Sue Torfin, and Peter Thulson. The meeting opened with the leading of a meditation on this week's Bible reading led by the Rector, Elizabeth.

We began with the 2009 audit, the report being delivered by Tom Schwartz of Holy Redeemer. It was noted that the two Parishes should continue to interact and to do something together. Not all of the Vestry minutes were found. There was not a voucher, which could be called a "check request form" with absolutely every bill paid nor check written, as there should be. Not all bank statements were located. These should be kept in the church. Steve (We suddenly have two Steves, I believe this was Medema.) asked if online statements supersede this. The title to the church property (land) was not found. Technically, the church belongs to the Bishop. Vestry minutes should show the approval of a housing allowance for each clergy person. Also, Caledonian should be shown as a separate line item on the financial statement or tax return. Judie: We need a complete set of Vestry minutes.

Eric moved we accept the letter dated November 2, 2010 from Tom Schwarz giving a briefer version of the above report. Judie seconded. How will we address the above treasury issues? The Church Insurance Co. found issues also. What is in accord with our bylaws in regard to the signing of checks. Vestry minutes and financial reports will be posted online on our website. There was discussion of how the backup of what Bennett has is done. The above mentioned letter from the audit committee from Holy Redeemer was accepted unanimously.

Kathy Fleming was not here due to the bad weather. She would like to send from 3 to 5 or our teachers to Godly Play training. She asks for funds for this to be transferred from the children's education fund in the amount of \$295 and later \$365 a person. Judie notes that Kathy only receives \$79 a month and would like to get more. There apparently are lots of designated funds for children's education. It sounds like the Vestry must approve moving funds from designated funds. Rich notes that using Quickbooks Jim can keep track of spending and of changes in spending as it happens.

There was discussion of financial matters in general and of designated funds in particular, and of the need for clarification of this latter issue. It may not be clarified right away. These issues need to be addressed, they may arise all year. When do people have to come to the Vestry to ask for the release of designated funds? How does this all work? We can't make the Treasurer's job so complex a volunteer can't do it.

Janice moved that we approve the moving of up to \$1500 from KTF, the Children's Education Fund, for Godly Play training. Eric seconded, and it was unanimously approved.

Steve (my notes do not say which Steve) moved and Lynn seconded the approval of the January minutes as corrected by Elizabeth. They were unanimously approved.

Sacred Vision, Sacred Path: We discussed the shortfall in funds and the possibility people are suffering from “donor fatigue.” There is a committee to deal with this of Elizabeth, Rich, Shelley, Jim, and Lynn. The Colorado Episcopal Foundation can do longer term loans than were done for the \$85,000 we have already borrowed. There was concern about mortgage rates going up. Rich talked about how this would work. The CEF suggested a sinking fund and a possible temporary waiver of money going to the Endowment so as to apply this to reducing the debt. Must the Articles of Incorporation be changed so as to enable us to do this? This sort of loan would be cheaper for the church. It would have to be reviewed by a securities attorney. We need to act on this before the big loan payment falls due in June of this year. The minimum amount of money to be loaned to the church under this procedure would probably be \$5000 from a single person pledging unit. The committee mentioned at the beginning of this paragraph will continue to gather information on this matter.

Then came some calendaring. The annual Diocesan leadership training will take place on March 26th at St. Timothy’s Parish in Centennial. Elizabeth encouraged members of the Vestry to attend and noted the usefulness of contacts among the leaders of various Parishes. The training will last from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. It costs \$15 a person, there will be food provided. Further details are attached to Elizabeth’s report.

Should we continue to meet on the first Tuesday of each month? If we changed it to the second, we could have the financial report for the previous month at the Vestry meeting. Other possible days were also discussed, but in the end it remained, for now at least, the first Tuesday. There will be a Vestry retreat on April 9th. There was discussion of whether or not this was the best date. It will be hard to find a time when everyone is free and able to attend. What about the 16th of April? No decision was made at this time.

There will be an Autumn retreat, probably in late August or early September. Many people who would normally make reports at a Vestry meeting did not this time, for various reasons. Beth Taylor thanks us for part of the turnout at her ordination. There were hundreds in attendance.

In March, there may be a discussion of various Vestry meeting formats.

George noted there is a men’s retreat scheduled for October 21.

Judie asked, regarding “Who Is My Neighbor?,” what resources are available for the homeless. Brian has pulled some of this together.

We adjourned the meeting at 9:06 p.m.