

Vestry Meeting Minutes
March 18, 2015
Calvary Episcopal Church – Crook Auditorium

Vestry Present: Julie Bethell, Alison Boeving, Chad Cunningham, James Dowd, Jan Gwin, Claudia Haltom, Celeste Herburger, David Leigh, Mike Nelson, Fred Piper, Leslie Atwood Smith, Raymond Spence

Others Present: Rev. Chris Girata, Katie Owen, Hall Gardner, Catie Thacker, Ashley Edge, Helario Reyna

Call to Order: Rev. Chris Girata called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and opened with a prayer.

Introduction of Helario Reyna: The new facilities manager at Calvary. He goes by Harry and is working on small improvement projects around Calvary.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the February meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Katie Owen presented the income statement. It is too early to see any major trends, but all is well so far. The income statement shows pledges being paid early similar to last year. Waffle Shop income may be lower this year since a few days were canceled due to weather. The treasurer's report was approved. Katie discussed the renewal for the Line of Credit. The interest rate for the LOC is labor plus 2.5. We did not tap into the LOC last year and do not plan on tapping into this year. Katie mentioned that it would be good to have just in case pledges get slow in the summer. The motion to approve the LOC was approved.

Hall Gardner made a motion to approve the housing allowance for clergy as outlined in the letter presented to the vestry. The motion was approved. He also proposed that Meg Turner's estate gift be sent to the Endowment Fund and marked as temporarily restricted. This is to ensure that the money can still be used towards other projects in the future if the vestry so chooses. The motion to approve sending the money to the endowment as temporarily restricted pending the endowment's acceptance was approved.

Grizzlies Prep Visitor: Ashley Edge: Ashley presented background information on Grizzlies Prep, including projects being worked on, funding resources, and ways Calvary parishioners could get involved. Calvary currently hosts a few school events a year in the sanctuary. One way for Calvary parishioners to get involved is a weekly mentoring program that lasts 30 minutes during lunch hour. They also have summer volunteer opportunities and other onetime volunteer opportunities that come up during the year.

Working Group Reports:

Administration

Jan Gwin: Jan reported that his group would like others' input in deciding on a consultant for the capital campaign. There are two types of consultants: 1. Focuses on the maximum number

of dollars that can be raised for the campaign. 2. Develops a holistic approach that will expand the campaign, annual giving in the future, and work on future estate gifts. The decisions that need to be made are between the two approaches and what we want the focus of the campaign to be. In the next month they will speak with Lee Duncan and meet to make the decisions. They will then bring a recommendation to the vestry next month on these matters.

Formation

Julie Bethell: Julie and her group made a recommendation for a week long summer camp trip on yearly basis. This would be open to both middle and high school students. Another recommendation was made to have a Pilgrimage on alternating years opened to high school students. Both these recommendations were approved.

Ministry

Claudia Haltom: Claudia reported that her committee is meeting with the different committees under ministry to make sure they are working efficiently. They will discuss adding leadership, combining committees, eliminating committees, and adding committees where it is deemed necessary with the groups.

Warden Reports:

Leslie Atwood Smith; Senior Warden: Leslie spoke about her experience at Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes (CEEP) at Amelia Island. She attended a workshop for Senior Wardens. She thought the conference was very valuable.

Clergy Reports:

Chris Girata: Chris reported on the following:

1. Christine Todd has agreed to the position of Community Ministries Coordinator, and has started at Calvary. She, Liz Browne, and Chris are working on getting the scope of their positions defined over the next couple months.
2. Chris spoke more on the capital campaign including knowing the “why” of the campaign with such specific things like building improvements, parking lot signage, upgrading the organ, etc. as items to be on the list.
3. Chris gave an update on the Columbus Park negotiations. He has arranged a meeting with the Ben Jones Committee and the city. He hopes to convince this committee that it would be a good idea to let Calvary buy the park, and the city would use the money to build the desired memorial for Civil rights attorneys.
4. A co-chair for the annual giving campaign is still being sought.
5. A new formation class, Discovery starts in April and will be every Wednesday for 4 weeks. Chris hopes this will help build connections for newer members. There are also plans to start a shepherd’s program of people who will connect one on one with these new members in the program. He would love recommendations of people who would make good shepherds.
6. Chris has narrowed his search for an associate rector to two candidates with the help of the wardens. He would like for both of the final candidates to come Calvary to visit, one next Tuesday and the other next Friday. He also would like to have a dinner both nights at a parishioner’s house and have a few members of the vestry represented.

Adjournment: Rev. Chris Girata adjourned the meeting at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Catie Thacker