

Calvary Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting Minutes
September 17, 2013
Crook Auditorium

Vestry Present: Bob O'Connor, Charles Shipp, Allison Parker, Drew Smith, Leslie Smith, Rose Johnston, Brett Norman, Alison Boeving, Hal Gardner, John Pruett, Alex Wise, Sam Cole

Others Present: Rev. Chris Girata, Rev. Ben Robertson, Katie Owen, Terre Sullivant

Call to Order: Rev. Chris Girata called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Opening Prayer: Rev. Ben Robertson opened the meeting with prayer.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the July 16 and August 20 vestry meetings were approved with minor corrections.

Rector's Report:

- Chris reminded the vestry that he is working on his doctorate through Duke University. This entails five one-week residencies over two years.
- He passed out name tags and asked the vestry to wear them to church.
- He announced that Kim Appling and Scott Crosby are chairing this year's stewardship campaign. This year's campaign will be a much larger, coordinated effort with captains and callers. A series of parties will be held before pledge cards are sent to parishioners. The campaign's goal is to encourage parishioners to invest more of their time, talent and treasure.
- He reported that The Hub's building has become uninhabitable due to neglect. The Hub does not seem able to afford to repair and maintain the building, and it has fallen badly in arrears on expenses three times in the past 12 months. It is not financially feasible for Calvary to continue to borrow money to pay The Hub's expenses or to pay substantial sums for repairs. There may be an opportunity to lease the building to a tenant who can repair and maintain the building. Therefore, it may be necessary for The Hub to move to another location. Chris wants to work with the Hub leadership to find a solution that will benefit both Calvary and the Hub, on whose board he sits.

The vestry voted and approved two items: 1) The Hub cannot remain in their current building in its current state of disrepair and 2) if no resolution can be reached, they should relocate to a more reliable space by December 31. There was also a discussion of the amount of rent Calvary Place daycare center pays Calvary.

Working Group Reports:

Doing and Supporting: Team leader Bob O'Connor reported that he met with Carissa Hussong and her outreach committee, which is comprised of an outreach component and a grants component. There was agreement that Calvary can do better with its outreach, which currently consists primarily of writing checks to organizations, with little parishioner involvement. There is a desire to combine grants and outreach and to identify a single compelling outreach ministry to energize the parish and focus where Calvary can make a truly significant impact. Perhaps this could be something such as addressing the issue of women and children in poverty.

Binding Us Together: Team Leader Alex Wise expressed excitement over Calvary's small groups, adult Christian formation, Wednesday night programming and children's programs. He is pleased with the intentionality of Calvary's programming.

Using Our Inheritance: Team Leader Hall Gardner presented a report on the concept of "cost centers" for budgeting purposes. Understanding "cost centers," such as ministries, programs, etc., is necessary in evaluating priorities. A discussion of cost-centered revenue and expenses followed.

Treasurer's Report: Katie Owen reported that Calvary is moving in the right direction financially and revenue is currently good. Expenses have been cut significantly. However, next month will show the expense of the recent air conditioning repair. The treasurer's report was approved.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terre Sullivant, Clerk