

Calvary Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2014
Crook Auditorium

Vestry Present: David Leigh, Nicky Hitching, Charles Shipp, Leslie Smith, Hall Gardner, James Dowd, Tom Chamberlain, Bob O'Connor, Mike Nelson, Terre Sullivant, Raymond Spence, Rose Johnston, Allison Parker, Alison Boeving

Others Present: Rev. Chris Girata, Rev. Ben Robertson, Rev. Eyleen Farmer, Katie Owen, Celeste Herburger

Call to Order: Rev. Chris Girata called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Opening Prayer: Rev. Eyleen Farmer opened the meeting with prayer.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the January vestry meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Katie Owen presented the January 2014 comparison of actual income and expenses to budgeted income and expenses. She announced that Calvary has hired a part-time accountant to assist in book keeping. Carol McCaul, the new accountant, is working on correcting the balance sheet from years past, which will be presented upon completion. Katie announced that Flood Recovery Expenses are estimated at \$457,000.00. Replacement parts for items ruined by the flood are starting to be ordered. Insurance should fully compensate all necessary expenditures and has issued a \$100,000.00 check to cover initial expenses. Katie announced that new carpet has been installed and some unexpected roof repairs will soon take place, both funded by the \$400,000.00 borrowed from the endowment. She clarified that the additional \$400,000.00 from the endowment, that was made available as a loan, has not been touched.

Working Group Reports:

Formation: Ben Robertson announced that the process for matching Calvary with a new youth minister through CYMT is underway and that Calvary should have a candidate to interview by April 15th, 2014. Dave Rupke is looking into starting a faculty/staff Bible Study at Rhodes, and a second Family Sanctuary class has started gathering on Wednesday night.

Ministry: Team Leader Leslie Smith announced that the ministry committee has concluded that Veterans Outreach ministry is not currently a need in the community and that the Hub ministry is on hold for now. She and her committee are supporting the Memphis Magdalene House Project with their prayers as they await more information and guidance from Rev. Eileen Farmer. Eileen announced that she has been in contact with folks in Nashville about moving forward with the Memphis Magdalene Project and that growing herbs and harvesting thistles are likely to be

the biggest needs. Eileen has been in touch with The Church of the Annunciation in Cordova who has three acres for use for growing herbs.

Administration/Senior Warden's Report: Team Leader and Senior Warden Hall Gardner reminded the vestry of Mike Nelson's offer to lead a group to investigate Calvary's Vestry Election process. Mike then made the following motion which was approved:

"To create an approximately five-member ad hoc committee consisting of vestry members and other Calvary parishioners to study best practices in vestry governance and make recommendations on that subject to the vestry no later than August. Chair to be elected by the vestry and members to be appointed by the chair in consultation with the rector and wardens."

Charles Shipp made a motion to elect Mike Nelson Chair of the Vestry Election Practices committee, and the motion was approved.

Hall reported that a Development Committee has been formed from this year's Stewardship Committee. It will be comprised of rotating members who serve 3-4 year terms, and its goal is to make stewardship a year-round effort as well as to ingrain stewardship into the culture of Calvary. Chris praised the fundraising experience held by the members of the committee and the committee's commitment to consider and help implement the formative side of development. Hall and other interested vestry members will meet with an ECF development consultant on May 17th, 2014. In planning for Mutual Ministry Review to take place in May 2014, Hall has reached out to both the Diocese and the Senior Warden at GSL. To end his report, Hall announced that the vestry will wait tables Wednesday evening, April 2nd, 2014 for Waffle Shop After Dark from 5p.m. – 6:30p.m. Determined by a show of hands, the majority of the vestry members present plan to attend and serve.

Clergy Report: Rev. Chris Girata announced that Rev. Ben Robertson is now overseeing Formation and that Rev. Eyleen Farmer is now overseeing Ministry. Rev. Ben Robertson announced that Marcus Borg will preach at the Ash Wednesday service which will be held at 6:30 p.m. and that the Fat Tuesday dinner the night prior promises to be delicious. Rev. Eyleen Farmer will host a luncheon on March 9th for people in the parish who would like to be a part of the LPS in the future.

Rector's Report: Rev. Chris Girata announced that the bylaw change has been executed as per the January Parish Meeting. He reported that LPS "after dark" series will feature speakers who are expected to draw large crowds and that Waffle Shop After Dark will be a more authentic waffle shop experience this year with waffle shop fare and table service by a volunteer wait staff. Great growth is expected. The Second Annual Clergy Krewe Dinner will take place Thursday, February 20th, 2014 to raise money for the LPS. There are 79 confirmed guests to date.

Chris, Eyleen, Ben, and Katie will travel to Atlanta for the Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes next week, where they will be able to network with other churches that function as Calvary does. Ministry pledges have been collated and all who indicated interest in particular areas of ministry are being contacted so that they may become involved. One Ministry Committee has been formed out of two former outreach committees, one of which allocated grants and the other of which coordinated ministry efforts. This consolidated committee has responsibility for allocating grants to organizations with opportunities for ministry behind them. Lastly, Chris thanked the vestry for their support of Kristin Lensch during her medical leave.

Old Business: Chris reported that the Hub has agreed to pay to repair its building in return for a renewed lease agreement and that we are getting close to finalizing the new agreement. He will also be meeting with Calvary Place in the coming week to finalize details of their newly negotiated lease agreement.

New Business: Chris announced that we are looking into more attractive Calvary signage at the back entrance of Calvary. Nicky Hitching requested a list of ministry/outreach committees. It was agreed that meeting minutes will continue to be posted on basecamp for editing purposes, but minutes will be approved at the following vestry meeting rather than on basecamp.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Celeste Herburger, clerk