

MINUTES
TRINITY VESTRY MEETING
September 15, 2014

A meeting of the 2015 Vestry was held in the Trinity Undercroft on September 15, 2014, at 5:40 PM.

Present: The Rev. Dr. Luk De Volder; Jack Tebes, Senior Warden; Lisa Omark, Junior Warden; Carolyn Gould, Clerk; Duo Dickinson; Marge Eichler; Barbara Hedberg; Peter Jongbloed; Richard Mammana; Robert Orr; Mary Ellen Savage; Cris Sigovich; Patricia Thurston; Fred Tyrell; Sarah Woodford

QUICK VIEW

Decisions made:

- **Approved Minutes of August 18, 2014, meeting**
- **Approved expenditure of the amount of \$3,600 to support the Perichoresis program.**
- **Authorized the Rector to hire an Administrative Assistant for 10 hours per week for up to \$10,000.**
- **Increased the Rector's Discretionary Fund to \$3,000.**

Tasks identified:

- **Sarah Woodford as liaison to Perichoresis will ask for a report on the program and a budget proposal for the spring for the January Vestry meeting.**
- **Consider application for Calvin Grant from the Lilly Fund.**
- **Consider the music program at the November Vestry meeting.**

The Rector opened the meeting at 5:40.

Barbara Hedberg offered an opening prayer.

Approval of August 18, 2014, Meeting (see attached):

The minutes of the Vestry meeting held on August 18, 2014, were approved as submitted.

Rector's Report:

Agenda Format: The Rector pointed to a new format for the Vestry Agenda, which is designed to bring important items to the attention of the Vestry.

Associate Rector Search: A good meeting was held with parishioners on Sunday, September 14, regarding the transition to a new Associate Rector. An interview team is in place to assist the Rector, consisting of the Wardens, 2 former Wardens, and the President of the Trinity Home Board. Six applications have been received, and 3 persons have been called for interviews.

Ministry Teams:

Liturgy and Spirituality:

Changes to the 9 AM Service: These are in process. Sarah Woodford reported that the September 14 service was creative and there was a positive response from parishioners.

Perichoresis Budget Proposal (attached): The Rector stated that our Intern, Zach Nyein, has put in a lot of work on the project and that the most costly item is for music. Sarah Woodford is acting as Vestry liaison to Perichoresis. Following discussion, it was MOVED and SECONDED that the amount of \$3,600 be expended to support the Perichoresis program. Sarah Woodford will ask for a report on the program and a budget proposal for the spring for the January Vestry meeting.

Calvin Grant Application: The Liturgy Team will be looking into applying for a Calvin Grant, which is administered as part of the Lilly Fund, for counsel on reconfiguration of Trinity's worship space. Barbara Casey and Glenn Segger are heading this effort.

Music: The Vestry meeting in November will focus on music, to answer "why are we doing this" with respect to parts of the program.

Parish Life:

Parish Picnic: Cris Sigovich reported that the Parish Picnic was successful, with community participation and food contributions from parishioners. Close to 200 people attended. There were suggestions regarding the need for more space and tables.

Coffee House: The Coffee House held in the Undercroft on the evening of September 13 was well-received. Ninety people attended to hear the good folk musicians. The cost was covered by the sale of tickets. Many non-Trinity people attended. The success of the evening pointed up the need for social events at Trinity.

Education and Youth: The Youth Group will be launched on September 28 for middle school and high school youth. There are 3 leaders. The amount of \$6,000 has been contributed, \$3,000 from Center Church and \$3,000 from Yale Divinity School Youth Ministry Initiative. Seven other participating churches will be asked to share in the cost

next year. The Church of Good Shepherd in Orange has 20 youth who will participate, and Vineyard Church has 16. Lay leaders from each church will also participate.

Properties and History (see attached items 1) through 4) circulated by Duo Dickinson on behalf of the Properties Committee):

Security: The Properties Committee has considered various strategies, including fobs and card swipes for access through locked doors, and cameras. More than the \$12,000 previously approved will be required. There was general discussion of security issues and Trinity's needs in that regard in order to protect parishioners and children coming to the church. There was a proposal made to authorize negotiation up to the amount of \$25,000 to enhance the security system, which will be pursued by Duo Dickinson.

Grant Proposal re: Front Steps (see attached "Entry Stairs Stair Plan"): There will be a Grant Proposal for the front steps, so that \$100,000 of a \$200,000 expenditure would be reimbursed by a grant.

Pew Removal: The pew removal work is to be done.

Administrative Operations:

Communications:

Website: The new website went live on September 15 at TrinityNewHaven.org. The Vestry expressed gratitude to Jeff Freeman, Neil Olsen, and Veronica Soell for their work on the project.

Staff Salary Increase/Clergy Parsonage: These issues will be voted on in October.

Stewardship: Jack Tebes announced that the theme of this year's Stewardship Campaign will be "Giving Hope". Testimonials, a letter and flyer will use this theme.

Continuing Business and New Business:

Rector's Administrative Assistant: The Rector indicated a need for someone to assist in the office in relation to follow-up on meetings with parishioners, for 10 hours per week at a cost from \$6,000 to \$10,000. It was MOVED and SECONDED that the Rector be authorized to hire an Administrative Assistant for 10 hours per week for up to \$10,000. The motion passed unanimously.

Rector's Discretionary Fund: The Rector requested the amount of \$3,000 (an increase from the current \$1,000) for program initiatives. It was MOVED and SECONDED that the Rector's Discretionary Fund be increased to \$3,000. The motion passed unanimously.

The Rector expressed gratitude to the Vestry for all that is happening at Trinity.

Barbara Hedberg led a closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM.

Upcoming Dates:

Parish Meeting:

October 19 after 11 AM service

Next Vestry Meeting:

October 20: Prayers, Sarah Woodford

**Snacks, Caren Carpenter, Lisa Omark
and Duo Dickinson**

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Gould, Parish Clerk

Attachments:

Vestry Agenda

Minutes of August 18, 2014, Meeting

Perichoresis Proposed Budget

Properties Committee items 1) through 4)

Entry Stairs Stair Plan