Calvary Episcopal Church Minutes

CALVARY EPISCOPAL CHURCH MINUTES OF VESTRY MEETING November 13, 2018

The November meeting was called to order by Sr. Warden Jewlon Morris at 6:34 PM. The vestry said an opening prayer for the parish.

Vestry Members Present: Leslie Amentini, Betty Best, Roy Haley, Jim Kidda, Oscar Lozano, Dorothy Lyons, Missy Marek, Scott McLemore, Jewlon Morris, and David Taylor

Also Present: Father Paul Wehner, Rev Lecia Brannon, and visiting Vestry members-elect for 2019, Angela Cooley and Amber Zentis.

Vestry Members Absent: Frank Lemkowitz, Joyce Strimple.

Jim Kidda led the vestry in a devotional "Show Me a Sign".

Following the devotional, Benny Spadoni, BSA (Boy Scouts of America) New Unit Development officer made a presentation to the vestry regarding girls' participation in BSA. It is noted that due to family exigencies, many sisters of Boy Scouts end up sitting through Boy Scout meetings without being able to participate and many of these girls have expressed a preference for participating in the activities Boy Scouts do (like camping out) that are not sufficiently accommodated in Girl Scouts. Any troop for girls participating in BSA would have membership exclusively of girls, though the scout leaders could be male or female, being required to complete and adhere to the BSA's stringent Youth Protection program. Girls aged 11 - 17 are eligible to participate, as any child younger than age 11 is required to have their own parents along on all camp-outs regardless of gender. Following the presentation, Jim Kidda made a motion for Calvary Episcopal Church to become a chartering organization for a possible BSA Troop of girls. Betty Best seconded, and the motion passed.

Review of October Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the October Meeting Minutes were reviewed for accuracy and approved, following a motion to approve by Dorothy Lyons which was seconded by Leslie Amentini.

Finance Committee Report

- * Revenues: Plate offerings in the past month exceeded budgeted amount by \$700.00 but the reduction of pledge amounts continues, with this month's shortfall of \$12,735.00, bringing total revenues to a year-to-date shortfall of \$24,295.00.
- * Vestry Oversight: Insurance shows \$0 due to timing.
- * Office and Administration costs were under budget.
- * Buildings and Grounds: Water bill is higher than budget due to late billing from the time frame when there was summer watering and before the leak was fixed.
- * Telephone bill includes two months fee as well as installation of new service.
- * Monitoring/ Tech service includes new virus protection software.

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- * Repairs and Maintenance includes the annual fire sprinkler inspection and maintenance.
- * Finance Committee: Bank fees include kiosk and online fees. It was noted there were fewer users of the kiosk, but greater amounts pledged by kiosk or online, resulting in a greater percentage of fees.
- * Outreach Committee budget overruns included the Kairos participation and Attack Poverty fund-raising gala.
- * Calvary Life: Pastoral Care team includes money for the visit from Bishop Duncan. The Parish Retreat shows a negative loss because payments were received but the bills have not arrived yet. Special Events reflects the increasing cost of postage for birthday and encouragement cards.
- * Balance Sheet: Total checking accounts down \$25,000.00 from prior month due to reduction in revenue and expenses outlined above.

Rector's Report

- * 2019 Budget Discussion: Finance committee cast a tentative budget for 2019, which anticipates the cost of a full audit required due to revenue (including school reimbursement of repairs) reaching the level where one is mandated. Vestry viewed the proposed budget, but no action was taken until revenue can be more accurately anticipated following Pledge Sunday.
- * Lord of the Streets, a Houston area Episcopal initiative to aid the homeless, is requesting assistance. Dorothy Lyon made a motion to support them with a one-time gift of \$200.00 and Roy Haley seconded. The motion passed.
- * Columbarium Installation is scheduled to occur between November 23 and December 8, to avoid Thanksgiving Feast and minimize interference with other activities. However, this will involve dusty construction work to include installing a 7-foot high box.
- * Vestry Christmas meeting and party: the vestry Christmas party will occur at Father Paul Wehner's house at 7:30 PM on December 11 following the vestry meeting at 6:00 PM. Vestry spouses are invited.
- * Stewardship Dinner will be November 16 and Commitment Sunday is November 18. Photography appointments continue November 23 and 24. Advent Wreath making will be December 2 and the Rosenberg Symphonic Band will perform December 9, the second Sunday of Advent.
- * Church attendance is decreasing. Vestry members are asked to contact people who have not attended in a while.

Associate Priest's Report

* Nothing to report

Sr. Warden Report

- * Bill for additional work on new double doors: Following installation of the security doors to the Parish Hall, there was additional unanticipated need for an ADA access switch. The Endowment Board has agreed to pay for this when the invoice is received.
- * Security cameras for campus: Permission has been secured for work to begin including \$2,000.00 approved by the Vestry for additional cameras for the church property.

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* Plan for trash reduction: Betty Anne Taylor, Formation director, has requested to head a committee for planning a way forward for reducing plastic waste. Dorothy Lyons made a motion to support efforts for a "Green Team Committee" to be headed by Betty Anne. Leslie Amentini seconded and the motion passed.

Jr. Warden Report

- * Parish Hall Roof: Duran Roofing agreed to lower their total bid slightly and included the substantial cost of the extended warranty in the original cost of the bid. Work on the Parish hall roof is scheduled to begin November 15, weather permitting and is anticipated to take about 3 days.
- * Calvary Preparatory continues work on the campus to prepare for Accreditation. The ramp to the school's temporary building will be removed because the building is no longer needed and will be removed by the end of November.
- * The wooden pocket doors that used to separate the parish hall from the Foyer were offered to Mercy Goods, an organization attached to Attack Poverty. If they are unable to take the doors, the doors will be cut up and discarded in the dumpster.

Committee Reports

* Membership: 133 families have signed up for photographs for the Directory. Nine adults attended the welcome party. Cookies will be decorated between services on December 9, and members are asked to bake additional cookies to decorate due to the Rosenberg Symphonic Band performing that night.

New Business

* None

Old Business

* None

The vestry said a closing prayer.

At 8:57 PM, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by: David Taylor, Clerk