

The Church of the Good Shepherd, Dunedin, Florida

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting October 23, 2019

Members Present: Pastor Becky Robbins-Penniman, Dan Depies, Jim Ratliff, Bill Blizzard, John Russotto, Phil Beauchamp, Robyn Harker, Diane Niford, Joe Nixon, Pat Cates (clerk).

Members Absent: Deacon Cindy Roehl, Cheryl Sharpe

I. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order by Pastor Becky Robbins-Penniman at 6:30PM

II. Opening Devotions and Bible Study

- The opening devotion was given by Pastor Becky

III. Information

A. Diocesan Convention Reports from Delegates—handouts

- Pastor Becky asked that the members read the submitted reports.
- Handouts #2 and #3

B. Mark Your Calendars

- **October 26:** Spaghetti Dinner for Dunedin Cares @ 6:00PM
- **October 27: Ministry Fair 9:00AM to 12:00PM**
- **November 8:** Drum Circle on the Dunedin Causeway
- **November 15:** Parish Game Night @ 6:30PM
- **November 20: New Member Wine & Cheese Social 5:30 to 6:30PM**
- **November 20: Vestry Meeting @ 6:30PM**
- **November 21:** Community Thanksgiving Service @ First Presbyterian 6:30PM
- **November 28:** COGS Meals of Thanksgiving Community Dinner
- **December 15:** Hanging of the Greens (11:30AM) and Carol Sing (4:00PM)
- **December 29: 5th Sunday Coffee Hour**
- **February 9, 2020: Annual Parish Meeting**
- **February 12: Vestry Photo, Organizational Meeting & Orientation**
- **March 13 & 14: Vestry Retreat**

C. Budget Process

- Joe Nixon reviewed the budget process
- He reported that there are new members to the Finance Committee.
- Forms will be given out Friday for those ministries who are interested in requesting budget items
- After the requests are received the Budget Team will review the requests.

- Joe talked briefly about parish contributions.
- Contributions received in 2019 have been substantially more than in previous years.
- He credited this to new members who are contributing regularly and current members who may have increased their giving.
- He is hopeful that contributions for 2020 will be approximately \$300K
- The budget requests compile the expense portion of the budget.
- Budget Hearings will be scheduled for December 8th after each service in the Patio Room. It is here where members can get information on the budget.
- The Vestry will see a preliminary budget at their November meeting and will vote on the final budget at the December meeting.
- It was noted that Judy Warner is now the chairperson of the Stewardship Team.
- The 2020 Budget Process Timeline will be emailed to the members following this meeting.

IV. Decision

A. Consent Items

1. September 25, 2019 Regular minutes—approve
2. Vestry Candidate Questionnaire—approve revised form (Handout #4)
3. Fundraising request YMCA Giving Tree—Gifts for Pinellas County Schools kids and families—approve (Handout #5)
4. Fundraising request of Bells of Hope for Carol Sing (Handout #6)
5. Dan Depies moved to approve; Diane Niford seconded.
6. Approved

B. Rebate of Diocesan Tithe: Accept distribution and report use

- Handout # 7 from the Episcopal Diocese of Southwest Florida
- A portion of the previous year's apportionment revenue will be returned to congregations who have honored their commitments
- The Church of the Good Shepherd is expected to receive approximately \$2K.
- Pastor Becky called for discussion on the intended use of these funds as outlined on the back of the handout.
- There were a number of suggestions including a Welcome Station; use by Spiritual Formation, Invite+Welcome+Connect and for Surveying the Meadow.
- It was the consensus of the Vestry to put the monies in the Vestry Designated Restricted Fund to be used for new programming expenditures.

- Pastor Becky further elaborated that the response to the Diocese will highlight that “we have several new programs that need support which were not in place at the time that the 2019 budget was passed.”

C. Kane Estate: Where put funds from sale of land?

- Handout #8
- Pastor Becky gave a brief background.
- Several years ago an Arthur Niebour died and left an undivided interest in coastal property in Maine. Most of the property is undeveloped although there is one house.
- The estate was originally believed to be valued at roughly \$250K to be divided among half a dozen heirs.
- It was felt that there were some unidentified heirs and 1/3 of the proceeds were escrowed while looking for additional heirs
- 2/3 of the estate has been distributed
- Good Shepherd received a check for \$2100 which is approximately 3.33% of the total estate.
- The check has been placed in Vestry Designated.
- There is the possibility that the parish may receive additional funds from the estate.

V. Discussion

A. New Member Socials: Responsibility for scheduling, inviting, planning & tracking between Vestry and IWC

- Bill Blizzard reported that Invite+Welome+Connect put together a process statement on how a new person would be welcomed and connected with Good Shepherd.
- A brief discussion was held to determine if this was a responsibility of IWC or the Vestry.
- Through consensus it was determined that the Vestry should take responsibility for planning the Socials since the dates of the Colloquiums have already been set.
- Through mutual invitation members were asked to respond to two questions: Should the New Member Socials be scheduled ahead of time and where should the Socials be held?
- It was consensus to schedule the meetings in advance and to hold the Socials at the Mediterranean Manor Clubhouse.
- Robyn Harker volunteered to make the necessary calls so that an accurate list of attendees can be made. In the future this job will be part of the Enjoyment liaison expectations.
- The will be four Colloquiums and four New Member Socials
- The dates of the Socials will be: January 19; April 19; July 26; October 25

B. Vestry Voices and Vibes: Planning for LAB (Life after Bill)

- Bill is going to retire from Vestry and is requesting a member to continue organizing the Vestry Voices and Vibes
- Bill recommends a single page but could be expanded to two pages as necessary.
- No action—for information only

VI. Planning

A. Ministry Fair on October 27

- The Ministry Fair will be in Kirk Hall, the Patio Room and possibly the breezeway depending on the weather.
- Bob Roehl has given some panels which can be used for displays.

B. New Member Socials (Depending on discussion): Location, dates, details

- 2020 Colloquiums: January 12; March 29; July 12 and October 11
- See V. (Discussions) A (New Member Socials) above.

C. Calendar

- Handout #9
- Dan Depies—gave 2020 calendars so that he could get input from the Vestry on the dates for the various activities.
- He asked that members go through the calendar and see that events are listed on the correct date.
- Information can be deleted or added as necessary.
- The members should contact Dan with their input.

VII. Closing Devotions –

- The closing devotion was given by Pastor Becky

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:54PM

Respectfully Submitted,

C. Pat Cates
Clerk