

MINUTES
ST. PAUL'S VESTRY MEETING
August 18, 2015

PRESENT: The Rev. Christopher Martin, Senior Warden Judy Rowcliffe, Junior Warden Doug Sprague, Joan Adams, Steve Avanzino, Jae Eitel, Kay Blackwill, Meg Gorman

ABSENT: Eric Guastavino, Vladimir Sovyak

INVITEES: Maggie Baxter and Jay Luther

The meeting, at which a quorum was established, was called to order at 7:10 p.m. with Evening Prayer read by Joan Adams.

Fr. Christopher expressed thanks to the entire Vestry for their leadership in his absence over the last several weeks.

MINUTES: The minutes of the July 14, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved.

AGENDA: The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

Fr. Christopher inquired as to whether the Vestry members would like a review of Roberts Rules at the next meeting. It was suggested by Judy Rowcliffe that the review be presented in detail at the beginning of each year. A brief review was presented by Jay Luther.

SPRIF III: Maggie Baxter and Jay Luther presented information on Phase II with the goal of breaking ground on the courtyard on April 1. Donations total \$106,000 from parishioners. Additional funding is required to reach the goal of \$200,000. St. Paul's recently joined the San Rafael Chamber of Commerce. A draft letter proposed to be sent to the Chamber for distribution to its members was distributed to the Vestry members for comment. The letter is also intended to be sent to a mailing list that will be purchased. Judy Rowcliffe offered to revise the letter with the goal of shortening the letter and including more of an "ask" in the letter. In addition to creating a pew card, the committee has also arranged for a thermometer to be made in an effort to raise awareness and continue solicitation of parishioners. A discussion ensued regarding various proposed strategies that Maggie will discuss with the committee.

STRENGTHEN YOUR SPIRITUAL CORE/NEW COLLEGE OF CHRISTIAN

PRACTICE: Fr. Christopher discussed the upcoming sessions on Strengthening Your Spiritual Core. He solicited any comments regarding his draft letter to other congregations. Because of the SPRIF program in the spring, he does not want to repeat the sessions in the spring, but hopes for additional sessions next fall, when a New College of Christian Practice is proposed. Christopher looks forward to discipleship members of St. Paul's participating in these programs. A suggested donation will be solicited at the Strengthen Your Spiritual Core sessions, and participants in the New College of Christian Practice will be charged a fee.

AMPLIFICATION IN CHURCH: Fr. Christopher met with Jacob Moody this week regarding purchasing and installing a new sound system in the Church. Christopher requested a motion

to approve Jacob Moody & Christopher Martin to spend no more than \$2,000 to purchase and install a sound system for the church. Joan Adams seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

PARKING LOT: The school had obtained a bid of \$10,000+ to reseal the parking lot. Steve Avanzino distributed copies of two additional bids he has obtained. Steve suggested combining the projects of the parking lot and meeting ADA requirements at the same time in one permit process. Steve will contact Pimentel to express interest in proceeding with the project, along with ADA compliance, to be completed in the spring.

PEOPLE CARE: Fr. Christopher will be addressing the subject of increasing the quality of “people care” at St. Paul’s over the next few months. Some of the main aspects of “people care” will be how we welcome newcomers, community events, and how we are connecting with each other.

NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS:

Steve Avanzino expressed concern over the need for the projects being assigned to the handyman to be prioritized, as well as the need to sign off on work he has done. Concern was expressed regarding various parishioners’ continued requests for a full-time secretary. It was suggested that an appropriate response is that times have changed, most parishioners are using technology at this time, and any calls currently being received are returned within 24 hours. Miranda is in the office on Thursdays to help with any of St. Anne’s needs.

Steve Avanzino recommended updating the parish directory.

Steve Avanzino expressed concern regarding the voting process required by the current by-laws when an urgent vote is required, such as was needed for the purchase of a new refrigerator last month. Steve suggested a review of the bylaws for possible amendment so as to avoid a delay in voting on any urgent matters in the future, particularly in this day of technology.

RECTOR’S REPORT:

Fr. Christopher reported on various pastoral issues.

Fr. Christopher is in the process of tying up the HVAC system and obtaining approval on the new alarm panel. He hopes to address the area underneath the Church on a Saturday in the near future.

Shelley and her husband are moving to Texas in September. Christopher’s preference is to have Shelley continue assisting the Church with our communications and payroll (5-6 hours/week). In addition, he hopes to pay someone with knowledge of our communication systems for an additional 5-6 hours per week to manage the office.

The Church choir will be singing the National Anthem at the Pacifics game on August 30, and it is hoped that many parishioners will attend.

Bible studies will resume in September.

The first session of the four-session Strengthen Your Spiritual Core Series will be on September 12.

Fr. Christopher and Chloe will host an Open House at their home on September 13 from 4:00-6:00 pm.

Tenesa is taking over primary responsibility for the coffee hour from Alice.

SEPTEMBER VESTRY MEETING: The next Vestry meeting will be on September 8, and regular meetings will resume on the second Tuesday of each month.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. with Compline led by Doug Sprague. .

Respectfully submitted,

Janie Burtch
Recording Secretary