

St. Peter Episcopal Church

Vestry Minutes

June 21, 2018

Present: Barbara Weaver, Judy Dettloff, John Boies, Bronwyn Burgweger, Donna Hill, Anita Biletzky, Fr. Jim Clement, Interim Rector, John Vain, Treasurer, and Larry Dirst, acting clerk

Absent: Phil Montgomery and Henry Vincent

Visitors: Nancy Franke, Lynne Roberts, Jane Ovitz, Cindy Vain and Larry Smith

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Fr. Jim, who led the Vestry in an opening prayer.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved with corrections. These corrections will be given to the clerk of the Vestry so that they may be made.

Anita Biletzky requested that the agenda for the meeting include a discussion of Stewardship. **The agenda** was then accepted with this addition.

During the **Open Forum**, there was no input from the visitors other than offering Fr. Jim best wishes in his new parish.

Committee Reports began with a report from John Vain that there are no budget concerns at this time. He continues to attempt to identify a person or agency willing to perform an audit of the parish's finances at a reasonable cost. The treasurer's report was approved unanimously.

There was no report of the Building and Grounds Committee. The Search Committee has recently received a number of resumes. The committee will meet on June 27 to consider next steps.

Anita Biletzky suggested that a Stewardship Committee be formed at this time so that adequate time is available to plan the program to be presented this year. She offered to serve as chairperson if additional committee members could be found within the Vestry and the parish. Judy Dettloff volunteered to serve with Anita. With the addition of two or three parishioners this committee will meet to create a program and present this at the September meeting for discussion. The Vestry unanimously approved the establishment of this committee.

Concern has been expressed that parishioners may reduce their pledges in view of the additional monies that will become available to the parish through the changes in the endowment funds. This will require the committee and the Vestry to correct misperceptions

that may develop within the parish. The Vestry was supportive of this effort and especially that it is being undertaken at an early date so that the program is well-thought-out.

The Caregivers and Christian Outreach Committees provided written reports. Plans are for special collections of food items to be held in July and August; collections for the Sycamore Food Pantry are often lower during the summer months. The results of this effort will be considered for their success and a determination made as to whether this might need to continue beyond the summer months.

Fr. Jim reported that a baptism will be held on Sunday, June 24. This is also his last Sunday at St. Peter's prior to his move to New York.

As representative of the Finance Committee, John Vain presented several documents necessary to **complete changes to the three endowment funds of the parish**. Document No. 1 (attached) certifies that an amendment to approve the conversion of the St. Peter's Episcopal Church Waterman Farm Trust Fund to a Total Return Trust design was approved by the parish on June 17, 2018 by a vote of 64 yes, 1 no and 1 abstain. Document No. 2 (attached) updates the trust account descriptions and document No. 3 (attached) sets the guidelines which outline the parameters for the trust investments. The new Trust Fund Document and Funds Parameters were unanimously approved by Vestry.

Motion was made to transfer the parish's checking account from Heartland Bank to First Midwest Bank and Trust Co. with the following persons allowed to sign checks: Phil Montgomery, Senior Warden; Anita Biletzky, Junior Warden; John Vain, Treasurer; and Jacquelynn Drake, Finance Committee member. As is the current practice, only one signature on a check will be required. This transfer of the checking account from HBT to a new SWEEP account at First Midwest Bank will provide a higher interest rate on the checking account and will allow for the easy depositing of funds from the Trust accounts. This motion was unanimously approved.

It was moved by John Boies that the church enter into agreements with First Midwest Bank to amend the St. Peter's Episcopal Church Fund trust, the St. Peter's Charitable Memorial Fund trust and the St. Peter's Episcopal Church Waterman Farm trust converting each to a total return trust and to authorize the individual co-trustees of the St. Peter Episcopal Church Fund trust and the St. Peter Charitable Memorial Fund and the individual advisors to the St. Peter Episcopal Church Waterman Farm Trust to enter into said agreements. This motion was unanimously agreed to by the Vestry. This will allow the Senior Warden and the parish treasurer to execute any other documents requested by the First Midwest Bank. Any documents signed would, of course, be presented to the Vestry for its approval. In this way there will hopefully be no unforeseen delay in completing the changes expected for the design of the Trusts. This motion was unanimously accepted by the Vestry.

New Business coming before the Vestry was the question of whether either the July or the August meeting should be cancelled. This has sometimes happened in the past when there was

less business to transact. Barbara Weaver suggested that in view of the departure of our interim rector that it may be wise to continue with the scheduled summer meetings. In this way, all business of the parish will be taken care of promptly and Vestry members will have opportunity to remain in closer contact through this period of transition. The Vestry agreed and so meetings will be held in July and August.

A motion for adjournment was made at 8:00 p.m. This was approved. Fr. Jim concluded the meeting by leading the Vestry and visitors in evening prayer.

Respectfully submitted

Larry Dirst

Acting Vestry Clerk