

# **Vestry Meeting Minutes**

## **Trinity Church – Milford**

### **7pm on January 11, 2016**

#### **Check-in and Opening Worship** (*Peach Warren*)

**Attendees:** Fr. Mac Murray, Dwight Kee, Dianne Belamarich, Ruth Warner, Jim Phillips, Steve Ketcham, John Ellis, Linda Allen, Patricia Peterson, Cheryl Martin, Peach Warren, Jim Thayer, Cheryl Eidenger Taylor, Wayne Stochaj

**Absent:** Elaina Chambers, Beth Moeller, Sarajane Duncan-Rector

- ✦ Peach read a quote... "To make a difference in someone's life, you don't need to be wise, rich or beautiful you just have to be there when they need you"... vestry members shared times when they were there for someone or someone was there for them.

#### **Housekeeping**

- ✦ Adoption of the Agenda. – **A motion was made and seconded from the floor to accept the agenda as presented. It passed unanimously.**
- ✦ Acceptance of the Minutes of the December 2015 Meeting – **A motion was made and seconded from the floor to accept the Minutes of the November Vestry meeting as provided via email. It passed unanimously.**

#### **Parishioner Sharing - Comments / Discussion**

- ✦ There's a bit of a concern about the senior youth group... The junior youth group is quite large so there's a question as to whether Beth would move up with the kids or what exactly will happen with that group.
- ✦ A parishioner often goes through and straightens out the books in the pews and someone is leaving water bottles behind. The ushers will be reminded to check the pews after services.
- ✦ Reflections on Christmas... The festival of lessons and carols was very enjoyable. Vestry members commented on each of the many services and about how much they enjoyed them.
- ✦ Reflections from Outgoing Vestry Members on Vestry / Trinity
  - Linda – Interesting how the experience is different year to year as the group changes and she'd recommend the commitment to anyone for a period of time.
  - Cheryl – remarked on how it gets easier as time goes on
  - Jim – Fun experience to learn how the church is run.
  - Donna – of all the places that she's been, this is the most active congregation she has served in. Trinity is making an impact in the community. It's very important for all the churches in the town to work together. There's a sector we're missing reaching out to though... emancipated youth. There is such a need in this area to support this group. If we want to pick up a new ministry the three people you have to work with are the homeless liaison at the school, school adjustment counsellors and the school nurses. There are so many ways we could spread our ministry to this sector. But we have to start making connections.. The present homeless liaison in Milford is Deb Friedman 508-478-1122 or 1123. The school nurse is Judy Dagnese 508-478-1168
  - The vestry, on behalf of the parish, thanks Donna Kingman for her service at Trinity.

#### **Treasurer's Report** (*Cheryl Eidinger-Taylor / Karen Carig-O'Neill*)

- ✦ December Treasurer's Report – not official yet because there are some year-end adjustments that still need to be made. Pledges were pretty much on target. We underspent based on our budget by approximately 6K. We will close out the year with a bit of a surplus. The surplus gets applied to past year deficits which is continuing to decrease.
- ✦ Finance Committee Activities – Was dedicated to finishing up the budget for the new year. Also, discussed some work that was needed at the rectory. The downstairs bathroom at the rectory needs a remodel.
- ✦ Stewardship Update – 129 pledges totaling \$211,227. This puts us \$3K under what is needed for the 2016 budget but there are still some people who pledged last year and haven't pledged yet this year. Typically, everyone who is going to has pledged by the end of January.
- ✦ Budget for 2016 – there are new line items for community meals and laundry love. Also, staff raises have been factored into the numbers. We'll be doing performance reviews and reviewing job descriptions. – **A motion was made and seconded from the floor to accept the 2016 Budget as presented. It passed unanimously.**

#### **Vestry Handbook**

- ✦ Discussion of Chapter 8 – A Vision for your Parish
  - It's good news that Trinity does some of what the chapter talked about. Our mission statement is on our letterhead, bulletins, badges, etc. We do a pretty good job of "putting it out there".

- Evangelism – what would you tell someone about the Episcopal church or our church specifically...Who we are and what we do.
- Burnout – what are we going to do when people who hold important positions approach burnout. When a torch is passed, the outgoing person has to step back and let the new person run it their way. This is a difficult thing for some people to do.
- Our mission statement is 5 years old... is it time to revisit it?

### **Ministry Issues / Actions**

- ✦ Cheryl met a new parishioner who is 20 and it made her really think about “how do we attract the 20 something’s.
- ✦ Fundraising and Parish Wide Events: Ruth Warner mentioned that we’ll start having breakfast fund raisers to raise money for community meals needs.
- ✦ Congregational Development: Peach Warren will look to have a safe church training in Late April/Early May

### **Wardens’ Report (Dwight Kee & John Ellis)**

- ✦ No report

### **Rector’s Report (Fr. Mac)**

- ✦ Come early for the annual meeting (Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>) to set up for service and stay late to clean up.
- ✦ Lent is coming right up. Ash Wednesday is February 10<sup>th</sup>.
- ✦ Summer feeding program is going to be discussed at the next Humanitarian Aid meeting. Any feeding sites that are established within the area will be open to anyone <19 for free meals. In order to be reimbursed by the summer food nutrition program the meals have to be served and eaten at the same place. They can’t be taken home for later.
- ✦ Public transportation is coming. The humanitarian Aid group is working on this too.
- ✦ Lenten study “Growing a rule of life?” starts 2/14.

### **New Business**

- ✦ Nothing new to report

**Closing Worship (Peach Warren)** The meeting ended with a prayer..

### **Upcoming Leadership Events:**

- ✦ Upcoming Vestry Persons of the Day
  - 17-Jan        2 Epiphany        John Ellis
  - 24-Jan        3 Epiphany        Dianne Belamarich
  - 31-Jan        4 Epiphany        Linda Allen
  - 07-Feb        5 Epiphany        All Vestry Members – 9am service / Annual Meeting
  - 14-Feb        6 Epiphany        Sr. Warden (following Annual Meeting Elections)
- ✦ Combined Service, Annual Meeting and Pot Luck Brunch – Sunday, February 7, 9am
- ✦ Vestry Meeting – Monday, February 8 – Facilitator: Sr. Warden
- ✦ Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper – Tuesday, February 9, 5pm – 7pm
- ✦ Ash Wednesday – Wednesday, February 10, services at 9am, noon, 7pm