

Vestry Meeting Minutes

Trinity Church – Milford

7pm on March 14, 2016

Check-in and Opening Worship (Cheryl Martin)

Attendees: Fr. Mac Murray, Dwight Kee, Dianne Belamarich, Ruth Warner, Steve Ketcham, John Ellis, Patricia Peterson, Cheryl Martin, Peach Warren, Sarajane Duncan-Rector, Ginny Starkis, Gayle Ruscitti, Ralph Stafford, Lucille Clinkman, Elaina Chambers

Absent: Jim Phillips, Cheryl Eiding Taylor

- ✦ Welcome to our 2016 vestry
- ✦ Check-in – The vestry members introduced themselves
- ✦ Opening Worship – Cheryl read a prayer from the prayer book

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 January 2016 Meeting – **A motion was made and seconded from the floor to accept the Minutes of the January Vestry meeting as provided via email. It passed unanimously.**

Parishioner Sharing

- ✦ If you need/want a gluten free wafer or prefer a traditional wafer be sure to let Fr. Mac know before service or while you are at the altar rail.

Confirmation Class Service Project Presentation

- ✦ The confirmation class is raising money and collecting goods for no kill animal shelters in the area for their service project
- ✦ They are having a breakfast and bake sale to raise money for the cause
- ✦ There will be a bulletin board in the parish hall with details
- ✦ They have contacted local papers to have it advertised
- ✦ They designed an insert for the bulletin to advertise the breakfast

Diaconate Candidacy

- ✦ Beth Washburn is intending to move forward with ordination. **The motion was made to put Beth forward as a candidate to the diaconate and seconded from the floor. It passed unanimously.**

Vestry Norms and Resources

- ✦ Vestry Norms – Fr. Mac read an excerpt from the Vestry Resource Guide which suggests we need to establish a set of norms for our meetings.
- ✦ The Vestry Resource Guide and The Vestry Handbook – The vestry is asked to read Chapter 1 of both books before the next vestry meeting. We'll review a chapter per month.
- ✦ Diocesan Canons Concerning Vestry – Distributed via email. Canon #16... Of Parishes and Missions in section 5..."of the parish". This talks about the officers of the parish. Canon #17...Of Vestries.
- ✦ Parish Directory – Fr. Mac sent a Parish Directory to all vestry members via email. This is for vestry members only as it contains emails and cell phone numbers.
- ✦ Parish Information Form (updates)
- ✦ Areas of Ministry and Vestry Responsibilities 2016 – The vestry members chose areas of ministries to chair. The vestry chairperson will be responsible for being in contact with the "leaders" in their area of ministry on a regular basis and reporting back to the vestry each month.
- ✦ Vestry Person of the Day List for 2016 – distributed via email. Wear your badges. Act as a greeter at the start of service and stand at the back door when church is over. Special note: use caution closing the windows in the parish hall.
- ✦ Vestry Meeting Facilitators List for 2016 – distributed via email.
- ✦ Keys to the Church and Closing Procedures – have been distributed via email and are in the Sr. Warden's folder.
- ✦ Other Resources: Vestry Papers, Parish Papers, MissionMatters

Leadership Day Review

- ✦ Some vestry members attended the leadership review and shared their experiences below. See a vestry member for more details as everyone took notes while they were there.

- ✦ Vestry 101 was interesting. Very concrete...one of the big problems we have is we talk and we don't necessarily mean the same thing. Ginny Starkis took detailed notes of this workshop that she shared with the vestry.
- ✦ Practicing Communal discernment – looking at issues that might come up holistically. A mock issue was brought up for study.
- ✦ Vestry 201 - Conflict Resolution – Conflict can be a gift which forces you to look more deeply at a situation.
- ✦ Music workshop. You can use music in place of words. Can be a very calming/unifying experience. Livening up worship with music.
- ✦ Seeing our neighbor – simple ways to get to know your neighbor were presented
- ✦ Communications – Facebook is the number one media right now. Would using “constant contact” or “mail chimp” for our email distribution be a better communication tool. Visit the Episcopal Asset Map online.
- ✦ Recasting Assets – what is the date at the end of our dash. The current trajectory of the Episcopal church as a whole is 2067. Lots of things factor into how you determine that date and change that date.
- ✦ Talking about Race – what is the nature of racism in our church. What are the underpinnings of who we are.

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

- ✦ February Treasurer's Report – nothing out of the ordinary to report. – **A motion was made and seconded from the floor to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. It passed unanimously.**
- ✦ Finance Committee Activities – Fr. Mac went over line items on the balance sheet... Explaining what they each mean.
- ✦ Parochial Report Approval – **A motion was made and seconded from the floor to accept the 2015 Parochial Report as presented. It passed unanimously.**
- ✦ Parish Audit – Thursday, May 5th

Wardens' Report (*Dwight Kee and John Ellis*)

- ✦ Progress on Insurance Settlement – The adjuster submitted the report to the carrier for the damage downstairs and to the roof from the storm in Feb. 2014. The Insurance company approved the claim for \$80,670.41.
- ✦ Potential Staffing Changes / Additions – Since Donna has left it would be good to get Fr. Mac some pastoral help. The finance committee believes we can afford an Assistant Rector. There is a potential candidate available that Fr. Mac will speak with this week.

Rector's Report (*Fr. Mac*)

- ✦ Holy Week – next week.
- ✦ Crossing the border meeting – April 10th at 12:30PM.
- ✦ Building, Fire and Health Inspections – the oil smell is dissipating slowly. The town wants to schedule the next inspection.
- ✦ Momentum Sunday – April 3rd – Baptism's
- ✦ Episcopal Visit and Vestry / Leadership Meeting – May 22nd Bishop's visit

New Business

- ✦ Mattress Fundraiser – Dianne is meeting with a fundraising event company about holding a fundraiser selling mattresses. More information to follow via email.

Closing Worship (*Cheryl Martin*) – The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

CALENDAR: [See Attached Calendar](#) (to be provided at Vestry Meeting)

Upcoming Leadership Events:

✦ ...Upcoming Vestry Persons of the Day

- 20-Mar Palm Sunday Patricia Peterson (8 & 10am)
- 24-Mar Maundy Thursday Ruth Warner (6:30pm)
- 25-Mar Good Friday Peach Warren (7pm)
- 26-Mar Easter Vigil Cheryl Martin (7pm)
- 27-Mar Easter Ginny Starkis (8am)
- 27-Mar Easter Gayle Ruscitti (10am)
- 03-Apr 2 Easter Ralph Stafford (8 & 10am)
- 10-Apr 3 Easter Lucille Clinkman (8 & 10am)
- 17-Apr 4 Easter Dwight Kee (8 & 10am)

✦ ...Lenten Activities

- Weekly Station of the Cross – Fridays in Lent at 7pm

- Friday, March 18 at Sacred Heart, Hopedale
- Holy Week Services
 - Palm Sunday – March 20
 - 9:30am Community Blessings of the Palms – Draper Park
 - Maundy Thursday – March 24
 - 6:30pm Dinner and service, followed by vigil
 - Good Friday
 - 3 hour Community Seven Last Words (noon – 3pm)
 - 6:15pm Stations of the Cross
 - 7pm – Good Friday Liturgy with Stabat Mater and Seele Musicale
 - Saturday – Easter Vigil at 7:30pm
- Easter Sunday at 8 and 10am – Invite a neighbor / friend / stranger

✦ ...**St. Patrick's Dinner** – Saturday, March 19th

✦ ...**Wardens / Treasurers workshop** – April 2nd – St. Andrew's in Longmeadow

✦ ...**Vestry Meeting** – Monday, April 11th – Gayle Ruscitti, Facilitator

✦ ...**Fr. Mac in Israel** – April 20th (Rev Perry Kingman Supply on April 24 & May 1)

✦ ...**May 22nd – Episcopal Visit** – Bp. Doug Fisher at the 10am service and Vestry / Leadership meeting after Coffee Hour

✦ ...**Fr. Mac on Vacation** – May 23rd - June 7th (Rev Dr. Rich Simpson Supply on June 5)

✦ ...**Diocesan Convention** – October 28 - 29 @ Marriott in Springfield

✦ ...**Trinity Christmas Fair** – December 3, 2016

2016 Events

✦ ...Monthly

- First Friday – ROMEOs
- Last Wednesday, Thursday and Friday – Community Dinner

✦ ...Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Burning of the Ashes

✦ ...Ash Wednesday Service

✦ ...Adult Inquirer's Class (during Lent)

✦ ...Rotating Stations of the Cross in Lent

✦ ...St. Patrick's Day Dinner

✦ ...Community Blessing of the Palms (Palm Sunday)

✦ ...Maundy Thursday Service

✦ ...Good Friday – 3 Hour Service

✦ ...Easter Egg Hunt – Holy Saturday

✦ ...UTO Breakfast

✦ ...Newcomer's Potluck Supper

✦ ...Parish Clean Up Days (Spring and Fall)

✦ ...Pentecost – Mylar Balloons ???

✦ ...Welcome to Summer BBQ

✦ ...Blessing of the Backpacks

✦ ...Welcome Back BBQ

✦ ...Ministry Fair

✦ ...Blessing of the Animals

✦ ...AGS Walk

✦ ...Fall Senior Social (Covenant Committee)

✦ ...Taste of Trinity

✦ ...Italian / Harvest Supper

✦ ...Covenant Evensong and Potluck (Thanksgiving)

✦ ...Thanksgiving Baskets

✦ ...Thanksgiving Meal Delivery

✦ ...Jesse Tree

✦ ...Christmas Fair

✦ ...Nativity Display

✦ ...Caroling to Homebound

- ✦ ...Ecumenical Christmas Concert
- ✦ ...Blue Christmas Service
- ✦ ...Annual Meeting