



The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist
Post Office Box 441 / 307 Federal Street
Milton, Delaware 19968



www.stjohnthebaptistmilton.org

Vestry Minutes for the Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist

April 10, 2019

Present: Sharon Lamando, Father Tom White, Scott Kresge, Ted Palmer, Jerry Hudson, Clara Escobar, Mike McNamara and Jill Malloy.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Senior Warden Sharon Lamando.

Opening prayer was given by Father Tom.

Review and Acceptance of March Minutes: Motion was made by Mike McNamara and seconded by Clara Escobar. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Sharon passed out some paperwork submitted by Tom Sombar. There was question about the totals since last month a resolution was passed for a \$5,000 transfer. Mike stated he would like all rental funds to stay within the rental account to cover the anticipated expenses that will be done to the rental house. Mike made a motion that the rental account is frozen to be used for rental expenses only unless voted on by vestry. Jerry seconded the motion. All were in favor. There were questions of the actual balances of all accounts, however, Tom nor Jim were present. Father Tom suggested questions be emailed to Tom prior to the vestry meeting in order to have answers prior to the meeting. Jerry suggested any expenses that can't be covered by the rental account to use the building fund since it has never been closed. Father Tom suggested to tell Tom he is to use the building fund until it is exhausted. Jerry suggested when Mike submits bills to Tom he should write a note on the bill to pay from the building fund to remind Tom where he is to draw from. By what was submitted there was no way to tell how much is available, what has been paid or what is due. Sharon made a list of questions for Tom. Sharon will forward Tom's response to vestry questions to all members. Sharon made a request to have a motion to accept treasurer's report. Vestry decided not to accept what was submitted since there are too many questions.

Priest's Comments: Father Tom reported he and Deacon Paula continue to visit the homebound. He talked about Palm Sunday and that we would enter the church from the front weather permitting. He talked of Holy Week and services into Easter Sunday. The choir will be singing some special songs, the Sunday school kids will be singing during the service as well. Father Tom spoke of how Kay W. had been in the hospital while he was away and he contacted her immediately upon his return home from vacation and she is improving.

Correspondence: None

Committee Reports

Worship/Music: Scott reported the old speakers are gone and the wall has been painted. Father Tom thanked Jerry for filling the holes where the old speakers had hung.

Sunday School/Youth Ministry: Jill reported the kids would be singing on Easter Sunday. The kids will have their yearly Easter egg hunt. Father Tom gave the Sunday school resurrection eggs which will be hid and have the kids open them to tell the Easter story. Jill spoke on how Rebecca and Willow taught a class. They did a great job and in the future will be teaching another lesson. The plan is to separate the two older kids from the younger ones next fall. Jerry asked if there had been any decisions on acknowledging the kids awards or efforts from school activities. Jill stated there had been discussion and it was decided to keep school and church separate. Doc DiMichele had asked Jill about recognition of school awards as well since Willow had received an award. Since some kids are not in school or perhaps some did not receive awards it was decided recognition for school activities should be done at home. The kids will be recognized at the end of Sunday school for their participation in Sunday school.

Outreach: Clara reported she has started shopping for the families outreach will be helping over the Easter holiday. Father Tom suggested she take some pictures as they start packing the Easter bags so the congregation know what the committee is doing for the 5 adopted families. Clara asked if Jill had any information on Camp Arrowhead and she had nothing to report.

Fellowship/Kitchen Teams: Jill reported the teams are doing well. Carole Somers left but Carole Palmer volunteered to help when she is able. The ice/water has been taped off so the ice trays and bottled water are used for everything. Mike is working on getting the water tested. Jill reported that while Tom Sombar volunteered to supply the church with bottled water he has not always been able to keep up with the need. There was discussion of looking into Staples cost for bottled water. Sharon brought up the others that use the church hall. Jerry pointed out it will be hard to regulate. Clara will look into the cost of the bigger bottles of water. Jerry suggested filtering the water once the renovation begins. Sharon asked if they could just put one under the faucet. Ted asked if the refrigerator had a filter. It appeared it had not been changed in a while. Jerry said he could put under the sink filters under both sinks. It will be decided to take Mike's suggestion and to get the water tested, use the bottled water and then see what a plumber would cost to filter it out.

Parish Communications: Father Tom reported that they had a meeting and they are trying to switch everything over to the Episcopal Church. Deacon Paula is working on prices for the roadside signs, parking lot signs and a new mat. Eric Valentine is working on prices on polo shirts. Parishioners could purchase shirts. There is a disagreement on how many entries should be on Facebook. Some think anything that is put on Facebook, it needs to be perfect before posting and some think the more posts the better. This will be addressed after Easter.

Property: Mike reported he got a quote for "preferred parking" to put out on the side of Prettyman Street for those that may have trouble walking a distance. It was quite expensive. Jerry suggested looking into traffic cone sign holders. There was a parishioner who was looking for a close parking spot and there was nothing available so she went home before the usher or Sharon could get to her. Scott suggested using the signs like he used for the cookie exchange. Scott said they are sturdy and will not bend. Jerry also said a plastic sandwich board would work. Mike said there was one in the shed and Jerry had one in his attic. Jill said she may have one too. Jerry suggested it could be labeled as "parking for those with limited mobility" that way it covers anyone who has trouble walking of any age. Mike spoke on the last time he was usher. A key is always needed and he suggested putting a key somewhere an usher could get to it to lock the door. Jill stated she could just lock the door when she and the kids come into the parish hall from the church. Mike said the town will be testing the water. Mike is still waiting on Pat Brown to give him a quote for the new duct work where the air is pouring out of the church.

Long Range Planning: Sharon asked if Jerry had anything to add in regards to the new bathroom. Jerry said the only question he has is how we would purchase the materials. Jerry thinks he can order everything on line and pay for it with the church credit card and have them deliver it. Jerry will look into the payment and delivery of the product. Sharon asked if they won't deliver it inside the building would he and Keith be able to go pick it up with their trucks. Jerry said they could pick it up but to let him look into the delivery aspect. Father Tom thanked Jerry again for him and Keith's willingness to take on this project.

Church Security and Safety: Mike had no report.

In Reach Ministry: Father Tom reported no activity.

Parish Hall Renovations: Jill had no report.

Old Business

James Swago's signature on the bank account: Unknown

Special Budget Meeting on revised form used: Tabled to the fall.

Amazon Smile: Sharon has not met up with Eric, but Scott said it would not be Eric she needs to talk to it would be Tom since it would involve bank accounts. Tabled for now.

New Business

Long Range Planning Formation: Sharon reported she feels a committee needs to be formed for the future. Sharon talked about the way the back doors in the church are framed out as square rather than the shape of them now. Jerry said what she is seeing is the old post and beam of the church. To change the look is to skim the wall with drywall and that would change the whole look of the church. Sharon asks for everyone to think about future projects for the next few years. Jerry said they did a survey of the congregation a few years ago. Ted and Jerry talked about the stain glass windows and Eric Valentine specializes in stain glass. Jerry said he thinks one thing the church should look into fairly soon is a full time church administrator.

Approval for rental power washing: Sharon would like approval from the vestry to have the rental power washed. Jerry made a motion to not spend no more than \$600 to have the rental house power washed at Earl Grimes earliest convenience. Clara seconded. All were in favor.

Preferred parking signs: Already discussed. More information at next meeting.

Feedback from congregation: Scott said Rebecca commented on how clean our church is. She visited her parent's church and the difference was obvious. Our church is exceptionally clean. Sharon suggested a thank you note. Jerry said we can give them a ham. Jill said maybe we could give them a gift basket like the outreach committee is putting together. Clara asked what we wanted in the basket. Clara will put together a basket for the cleaning folks. \$75 is the budget for the basket.

Executive Session

Motion to Adjourn: Regular meeting resumed and a motion was made by Jerry and seconded by Clara. All were in favor. Next vestry meeting will be May 15, 2019.

Respectfully submitted by Jill Malloy, Clerk of the Vestry