

BC Meeting Minutes March 10, 2024

**Members Present:** Holly Foley, Reverend Hillary Kimsey, Kathy Avery, Ester Osborn, Cris McCarty, Jim Foley, and Tim Van As.

**Members Absent:** Marj Zantek, Melody Reeder, Dave Peterson

The meeting was called to order by the People's Warden at 11:50 a.m.

The first order of business was a presentation by Heather Carnocki regarding the plans for landscaping the church property. The members of this committee are: Heather Carnocki, David Sorrell, and Marj Zantek.

This committee has already had their first meeting. Their objectives right now are to design the plan and begin initiating part of the plan.

It was agreed that the land is one of our best resources.

The committee proposed six goals:

1. Improve "curb appeal" which could include:
  - a. Making a new sign or adding signage that can be more easily seen from the road before people turn into the driveway. The signage should be permanent and professional. Bill Fagen can help create the sign. Holly mentioned there is a sign in the barn that could be considered.
  - b. Refreshing the garden beds. A plan to redo the garden is scheduled for the fall which would include planting drought-resistant plants such as forsythia and daffodils as well as choosing plants that will do well in the wet/marshy spots on the property. Perhaps explore permaculture as a way to use the marshy area.
  - c. Create a list of tasks that can be done independently that includes both large and small tasks.
2. Provide inter-connected, tranquil/welcoming spaces:
  - a. Create a walking path around the property.
  - b. Create a labyrinth.
  - c. Possibly incorporate the Memorial Garden.
3. Maintain & improve existing outbuildings:
  - a. Take the bell tower out of the barn and install.
  - b. Barn renovation which would include creating a safe space for youth to gather in the loft.
4. Support fellowship activities:
  - a. Protect open spaces on the lawn for activities
  - b. Take care of lawn

- c. Encourage community participation on garden projects mentioned above.
  - d. Designate space for lawn parking for community events.
5. Financial Plan:
    - a. Create and develop a variety of funding sources.
  6. Support Flower Guild Ministry by planting flowers and greenery.

Heather provided her email address and encouraged the BC to send her ideas. She also said that a survey would be sent out to the congregation to get feedback on the best use of the property and outbuildings.

That was the end of the presentation.

Mother Hillary said that she would like to send Thank You cards to Peggy & Brian Roberts for sponsoring the film Philadelphia 11 as well as Tovi for hospitality.

Mother Hillary said that she would send a card/note to Rev. Canon Carla Robinson to thank her for being our guest preacher on March 3.

Holly moved that we accept the minutes from the last meeting. Esther seconded and the motion passed.

Holly Foley asked that we add an item to the agenda for today which is a discussion regarding purchasing a dedicated laptop for the Treasure's use.

## **Reports:**

### **Treasure's Report.**

Jim reported that we are "pretty close" to being on budget and we are in the black at this point in time. The mortgage on the building ends on December 1, 2029. At that point, the decision about whether to pay off the mortgage (if possible) or to refinance the mortgage. Jim also noted that, when possible, the church is paying more than the minimum payment on the loan.

Mother Hillary said that she will chat with some consultants about the pros and cons of paying off the mortgage or refinancing.

Jim also said that the check from the Dioceses Investment Fund still has not arrived. It likely was lost in the mail. The Diocese will reissue the check. This money is what requested to reimburse for Vicar search and sabbatical spending. It has been received and deposited. Unfortunately we missed out on interest while we were waiting as the money has been removed from the funds when the original check had been written.

The report then moved to a discussion about the laptop. Jim informed us that there is some information stored in the cloud, but that the reports were on his personal laptop.

He said that all bills are scanned and uploaded to the cloud. Jim volunteered to do some research on laptops and report back to us.

### **Vicar's Report**

Mother Hillary said that Episcopal 101 is going very well. She also said that having acolytes again is a wonderful addition to the service. She also mentioned that donations can/will be made to the BIPOC clergy fund to support and encourage members of the BIPOC community to become priests.

She also noted that several members have not yet completed their Safe Church training.

[Who introduced this?]

There was a discussion of having a "barnival" which would include a garage sale and celebration. People could bring items to donate, and the proceeds would go to St. A's.

### **Old Business:**

1. The creation of a large **church wall calendar** for events or maybe a large white or cork board. Melanie Reeder is looking into this.
2. **Security cameras.** We are still waiting on the power supply to be determined.
3. **Improvements to acoustics.** The Memorial Fund subcommittee will continue to investigate options. Members of this subcommittee are: Marj Zantek, Melanie Reeder, Holly Foley, Tim Van As, and Mother Hillary. Mother Hillary will convene meetings as needed.
4. **Time and Talent** spreadsheet will be sent to BC members via email.
5. Burst Sprinkler Pipe Recovery/Insurance Claim. Awaiting claim money.
6. The committee thanked Kathy Avery, Holly Foley and Marj Zantek for cleaning, sorting, and organizing the kitchen.
7. Confirmation of the Mortgage Refinance date. The ten-year loan will mature on 1 December 2029. We can either pay off the loan at that time or refinance the balance. The amount owed in December 2029 will be \$523,424.40

### **New Business:**

1. Presentation by Heather Carnocki on the Landscape Design plan (see above).
2. Prayer Request Box. Kathy Avery will follow up.
3. Solicit bids for repair work.
  - a. Mother Hillary has some friends who might be willing to donate labor and use this as a tax write-off.
  - b. KG and Sons (Kevin Gillman) said that replacing drywall and the kickboards won't be hard to do.
4. Results of BC Retreat: Goals for Mutual Ministry Agreement

- a. Gather. Form a Welcoming Team with a step-by-step process for incorporating new members. Should be completed by February 2025. Also discussed was creating new signage. (See above)
  - b. Grow: Develop year-round stewardship and provide regular updates to show how money is being spent.
5. Purchase an additional camera for livestream. There is a place for the camera, but it will cost about \$1,100 and presently there is \$900 in the fund.
  - a. Update: An opportunity to purchase the camera for less was presented by Mother Hillary via email. Holly Foley motioned to approve the purchase. Esther Osborn seconded. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00pm