

Minutes from the Meeting of the Vestry
Church of the Redeemer, Bryn Mawr, PA
Tuesday, April 9, 2019
7:00-9:00 PM

Vestry Members Present: Susan Adeniyi-Jones, Jim Buck, Jan Clarke, Lisa Davis, Mackie MacLean, Andrew Masterman, Carolyn Morris, Tracy Steele, Scott Stephan, Jacques Vauclain, Carter Williams.

Absent: Andrea Cayley

Redeemer Staff Present: Peter Vanderveen, David Romanik, Jo Ann Jones, Jay Einspanier.

Recorder: Jo Ann Jones

The meeting of the Vestry was called to order at 7:00 PM. Peter Vanderveen gave the opening prayer.

Minutes: The Minutes of the March meeting were approved.

Audit

Adam Watson of BBD, having met with the Finance Committee, presented the Audit Report to the Vestry. It was a clean audit.

Mr. Watson made remarks concerning the balance sheet, new accounting policies that have been adopted and the Notes added to the Report. He took several questions from Vestry members.

Mr. Watson recommended to the Finance Committee that the Churchyard Statutory Fund be changed to “without donor restriction” from “donor restriction.” It may be “vestry restricted.” The Gregg fund will continue as one with donor restriction.

He discussed internal controls and did not identify any material deficiencies.

Music Committee Tour Report

Michael Diorio reported that having used Tour Resource Consultants for the four tours dating from 2011, this year he looked at three tour companies. He chose Music Celebrations International and noted that the bids of the three under consideration were within \$211. The 2020 tour will be a three capital tour, Budapest, Prague, and Vienna. The Vestry was asked to hold the trip destinations in confidence. The cost per person will be approximately \$3897 with airfare included. The airfare component is estimated to be about \$1400. The tour company could manage the airfare or a travel agency could provide a competitive price and arrangements.

The criteria employed for the destinations were: worship services where there is a church culture; meaningful outreach; and the opportunity to participate with an organization or ensemble.

The Vestry contribution of 10% of the total cost reduces the amount the tour members need to raise through fundraising, which has become a heavy lift. The Vestry contribution is applied to tour members who are members of the choir. The Margaret Orr fund is available to those children who are unable to afford the trip.

Jan moved that the Vestry approve a Vestry contribution of 10% of the cost with a maximum of \$20,000. Mackie seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Accounting Warden Report

The 2019 budget is on track with respect to income and expenses, having reached 2019 income levels.

Jacques reported that as of March 11 Annual Giving was 21 pledging units behind the level of 2018, but as of April 8, the average pledge and total amount pledged have surpassed 2018 levels. He proposed assigning Vestry members to meet with SYBUNTS to discuss specific topics and to check in on health, need for pastoral care, etc and He would like to return to a full campus canvass.

Actions taken:

Jim moved that the Vestry approve the Audit. Mackie seconded the motion. The Audit was approved.

With regard to cash flow for the Legacy into Promise renovation, Jim Buck moved that the Vestry approve the pledging or hypothecation of trust assets: 1) an amendment to the Revocable Trust Agreement (Unrestricted Endowment), dated September 22, 1988, granting the Trustee power to pledge or hypothecate assets at the direction of the Church; and the Revocable Trust Agreement, dated September 22, 1988, granting the Trustee power to pledge or hypothecate trust assets and the direction of the Church, Jan seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Regarding general operations, the accounting warden of St. Christopher's Church, Gladwyne, requested that Redeemer share pledge figures for the last three years as reported in the Parochial Report for purposes of analysis with other churches. The motion was adopted.

Administrator's Report

Jay is readying the property at 211 Pennswood Rd. for the occupancy of the staff during the Parish House renovations. The offices will be moved there in the second week of July. The June schedule is as follows: 1st week - the modular unit arrives; 2nd week - water, sewer hook-ups and electricity; 3rd - begin the move; 4th week - hold parish and outside group meetings in the modular units. Asbestos remediation will begin July 15, at a cost of approximately \$150,000. August 1 demolition and

construction begin. The modular unit (Annex) will be located on the south lawn of the Church. We will need a crushed rock foundation to be laid underneath the annex to prevent its shifting.

Liaison Reports

Bazaar - Caroline reported that there will be an event in November at the Merion Cricket Cub. The committee is planning for food stations, with a scaled down live auction, in order to promote community engagement. There are three levels of ticket prices: \$150, 100 tickets for \$75 to encourage younger members to attend and \$300 tickets for Benefactors. They have identified a need for underwriting this fundraiser and will use targeted letters to supporters to explain the need for funding for Outreach. The committee will wait until after the Garden Party to solicit potential underwriters, perhaps in early summer.

Peter commented that there is a need to develop general communications about how we move into next year as we close the Parish House. Andrew suggested placing communications about Legacy into Promise on the agenda of the May meeting.

RYG- Carter requested approval for two fundraising activities for RYG: 1) a car wash after church on April 28, proceeds to go to RYG; 2) Rise Against Hunger on May 5, 1-4 PM. The Vestry approved these requests.

Associate Rector Reports

Jo Ann reported that she is working with David on making a transition into the ministry of pastoral care. The Commission on Ministry recommended that Michael Palmisano be ordained to the Transitional Diaconate on June 8 and the Standing Committee gave its consent.

David noted that the coffee for the 12 -14 newcomers at the Rectory on March 31 was particularly vibrant. No pictures of the new members are available, but they can be identified from their profiles. He will pass of his responsibility as Liaison to the Committee. He had a delightful conversation with Michael Palmisano, and found him to be a good choice for Redeemer. Finally, he thanked those who were at the April 7 celebration. It was a wonderful confirmation that Church of the Redeemer was the right place for the Romanik family. Jim Buck noted that passion and the personal depth of each of the speakers at the celebration.

When asked when Michael would arrive at Redeemer, Peter responded that Michael was look for a place to rent the past weekend. He will graduate May 16 from VTS and should be here June 2 or 9.

Rector's Report

On June 2 there will be a major donor reception at the Rectory.

Peter presented the Parochial Report. Mackie moved that the Vestry approve the Parochial Report and Carter seconded the motion. The motion passed. The Executive Committee then signed the Report.

Peter then expressed his profound gratitude for David's time. He observed that he and David were alike and complimentary in the best ways. "You've done your work and ministry extraordinarily well for the benefit of parish and staff.

David gave the closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.