

Minutes from the Meeting of the Vestry
Church of the Redeemer, Bryn Mawr, PA

Tuesday, May 8, 2019

7:00-9:00 PM

Attending: Jay Brown, Jan Clarke , Mackie MacLean, Andrew Masterman, Caroline Manogue, Carolyn Morris, the Rev. Peter Vanderveen, the Rev. David Romanik, the Rev. Jo Ann Jones and Jay Einspanier.

Absent: Susan Adeniyi-Jones, Andrea Cayley, Phil Jodz, Elizabeth McLean, Scott Stephan, Carter Williams

Recorder: Jo Ann Jones

The meeting of the Vestry was called to order and Jo Ann Jones opened with prayer.

Minutes: The Minutes of the April vestry meeting were approved as recorded.

Rector's Warden Report:

The Executive Committee met to discuss and clarify questions from the April Finance Report. The members sifted through the numbers to clarify the Capital Campaign report. The objective is to craft clean, simple explanations of the flow of funds and spending estimates for the Capital Campaign for the June meeting. The Vestry must decide in September whether to move forward, to commit to a sum of money for construction and other future steps, if groundbreaking is to take place in 2019. We need to raise a half million dollars in the quiet phase, excluding money for the landscaping phase. The Vestry should think about events that Redeemer may hold to maintain the momentum of the parish family during construction and to stay connected.

Accounting Warden Report:

With a third of the year now reported, the budgeted and actual figures are close. Income from the endowment is low due to the change in the Church Fund's method of distribution. The expenditures for the Building line are weather related. Pledges are holding up. Lighter collections have been accounted for for the months of July and August. Referring to the Balance Sheet, Jay Brown asked why there was a negative \$2,500 charged to the organ. This was the cost of repairs paid for from the Music fund. Residential Rent of \$0 reflects a timing issue of a payment made in March for April rent. Savings were achieved for Music because of Michael

Diorio's savvy negotiating. Savings have also been achieved because Adrian can substitute for Michael when he is away. Mackie has begun working with Bryn Mawr Trust to obtain a loan collateralized by the unrestricted endowment of \$7.2 million and will work with the Chair of the Diocesan Finance Committee to obtain the Diocese's approval, if necessary. It does not appear that the congregation needs to approve this loan. Andrew noted that if collections were accelerated to January instead of December it would have a huge impact. Mackie also proposed moving cash currently held at Bryn Mawr Trust to a series of Treasury bills. This would yield an additional \$100,000 in income.

Liaison Reports

Music – The Brass and Organ Concert was a success. Donations covered the costs. Ticket sales brought in \$1500 to \$1800. Soles for Songs – 3,141 pairs of shoes were collected, netting \$2,500. The Garden Party will be held for the last time at Appleford, where a special tribute is planned for Michael Stairs.

NEW – has a new member, Kathy Chojnacki. The Committee will meet May 16 to review a new charter.

Outreach – All members have signed the Conflict of Interest Statement. The charter for the committee is still under discussion as part of the merger work. Grants will be completed on May 15. The committee is close to completing a new mission statement. Caroline will attend that meeting to review the Conflict of Interest Statement and its application to the work of this Committee.

Bazaar - A new chair will be needed for 2019 and assistance is needed in identifying potential new chairs for that Bazaar, so that the leadership will be expansive and more inclusive. It is desirable to develop more involvement on the part of the members of Redeemer because the Bazaar is a huge builder of community.

MEG – The survey has been sent to empty nesters. The list was increased to assure a statistically valid response. Preliminary results indicate that the empty nesters want more social activities. Almost 60 % wanted a Sunday afternoon service. One suggestion is to add vesper services. The staff has discussed this and has agreed to substitute a 5:00 PM service for 11:15 AM service once a month. MEG will follow up with those who did not respond and will conduct two more surveys: one to parents with small children and one to seniors. The committee is looking to build a growth culture

Bylaws – No report.

Education – The committee discussed the future course of Rite 13 and is looking at combining 6th and 7th grades, 8th grade in confirmation or 8th and 9th grades together, perhaps in Bible study or reading and discussing a book, *The Little Prince*, for example. The Committee is going to bring back the Parents' Party to start the Church School year as a kick off.

Jay reported on a number of items at the Church. The water pipes in the Parish House are fine. The heating pipes are rusting, presenting the questions of whether they should be repaired. It is possible that there will be no heat in Room 1-2-3 and in the hall. 211 is rented for a small increase in rent. The Church roof leak is fixed, though there may be some leaking through the masonry. The headstones will be reinstalled. Jay will walk the grounds with Bill Delafield. New plantings may be needed. Kaplan will be renting space again this summer. The organization pays the market rate of \$1200 per class.

Associate Rectors' Reports:

Jo Ann serves on the Diocesan Budget Committee. It does not appear that there will be an increase in "the ask" for the Sacred Gift for Administration in the 2019 budget. The Diocese will use the income from the unrestricted endowments of closed churches that reverted to the Diocese to cover the deficit in that Budget. She anticipates that there will be an increased ask for Sacred Gifts for Administration for 2020 and encouraged the Vestry to attend one of the upcoming Budget hearings, particularly June 6 at 6:30 PM at St. Paul's, Chestnut Hill or July 14 at 10 AM at Church of the Good Samaritan. The Diocesan Deputation met on April 18 at Redeemer to discuss the upcoming General Convention in Austin in July. Jo Ann will attend training in Linthicum Heights, MD for her position in the Secretariat.

David reported that the Faith and Culture series has been well received. The Capital Campaign is uncovering pastoral issues that were unknown to the clergy and Pastoral Care Committee. He is planning next year's Adult Formation series and has invited Alan Jacobs for a presentation in March. The Merion Deanery will hold its annual meeting here on May 10 with an Ascension Day Eucharist at 7 PM. The Deanery held its choir concert at St. David's on May 6 to benefit the Ardmore Food Pantry and the Chester Choir School. David will be absent from the June Vestry meeting because he will be leading two workshops at the Invite Welcome Connect Program at Sewanee.

Rector's Report

Noting that this has been a very busy time, the Rector reflected on what is required of the staff to prepare for a large funeral, such as the McIlvain funeral, that no one sees. Yet it reflects what the Church is about and that everyone receives the same treatment. The pastoral needs of Redeemer members who are homeless, jobless and destitute also demand a great deal of the staff's time. The need is great, even beyond what Redeemer can give. The Church serves as a stop gap for a limited time. Peter was pleased with the past Sunday's Rite 13 service, that it used the curriculum, adapting it to our context correctly. He observed that the Executive Committee is trying to communicate complicated matters accurately with consistent use of terms and form. The Executive Committee will meet with vestry members to elicit questions and comments with respect to what is to be communicated.

Legacy Into Promise

Campaign Gifts – Pleased with the status of the public phase. Everyone has been thanked. We are tracking ahead of the formula and we are one-third of the way to the goal. Verbal pledges were clarified so as to remove doubt that the pledge will be paid.

Communication – Peter praised Ken Garner’s representation of progress to date and its effectiveness. It received an enthusiastic response. Peter will be working on a letter to neighbors about the progress and plans to visit to answer questions.

Design Development – Bob Nalls reviewed and approved a Letter to Proceed sent to Milner Architects and Christopher, Miller for the Design Development phase. The W.S. Cumby contract is being fine-tuned. We are close to signing off on the pre-construction work, awaiting comments to be given to Redeemer. We are also awaiting the IT proposal. Kyle has arranged for a time to talk to the two top candidates for Owner’s Representative that the Construction Committee. A stellar client reference has persuaded that Committee to select one finalist to present to the Operating Committee on May 11.

Relocation - The Committee is working on many fronts, encouraging staff to start early to sort items for storage and to think about storage possibilities.

Landscaping – This is an area that needs work to be fleshed out. It is the least developed facet of the campaign.

Closing: It was moved to adjourn, seconded and approved. David closed the meeting with a prayer.