

FAITH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Poulsbo, WA 98392

Bishop's Committee Meeting
March 21, 2019

Present: Rev. Laura Murray, Louise Kernaghan, Gary James, George Daniels, Fred Pomeranz, Diane Foster, Brenda Toth, Deb Hurd, and Kay Rawlings (taking notes).

The meeting opened in prayer.

A motion was made by Brenda to approve the minutes from the February meeting. Gary seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer and Finance Committee Report (Louise).

Louise and Laura discussed their search for a new computer and financial software. The current financial reports are insufficient and don't provide certain details and line items. George noted the lack of account descriptions. Laura gave George a copy of the annual report which includes the account descriptions.

The committee discussed computer brand experiences and technical support options (Geek squad vs local providers). Laura will research support options.

A motion was made by Diane to approve the February financial report. Seconded by Deb. The motion passed with George declining due to formatting issues with the report.

Old Business.

Parish Directory: Progress is being made on the parish directory. When complete it will be posted to Faith's website with access limited to those who have a Faith login.

Bishop Committee Retreat: Discussion of what went well and what could improve the Bishop Committee retreat.

- Less business, more retreat
- Eucharist and more prayer
- Goals were a success
- Desire for next year to be longer (possibly overnight) and more 'retreat like' with activities and bonding experiences.

George asked about communicating retreat accomplishments and goals to the congregation. Laura and Deb said that reports from meetings are posted in the library and Laura will discuss goals and other items in newsletter.

Diane reported on lighting and electrical work. Some church light fixtures will need to be replaced. Also discuss an outside spotlight for cross on church and improved signage. Louise noted that she hasn't received a bill yet from the person doing electrical work.

College for Congregation Development: Deb and Laura will be attending the College for Congregational Development either this year or next, but we need one more participant. The

committee was asked if anyone was interested in attending and no one volunteered. Kay Rawlings volunteered to be the 3rd attendee if none of the other BC members could attend.

General discussing of the need for more people to attend a Safeguarding God's Children and Safeguarding God's People training.

Update on computer/printer: Laura has a \$600 budget to buy a new computer. We are also looking at spending \$350 for QuickBooks although we might be able to purchase the software for less from Tech Soup.

Discussed using BSD computer support, a local service. Laura will investigate and make a recommendation.

New Business.

Use of Building by Groups: We are getting more requests from outside groups to use the parish hall. Since we are a nonprofit we must adhere to certain state and federal regulations to maintain our nonprofit tax status. Laura read a 2015 letter from the Canon to the Ordinary regarding building uses and taxes. There is a 50-day maximum for renting out the facilities to outside, for profit groups. Discussion followed regarding who uses the buildings, what requests have come in, and what contracts and agreements we have in place. Laura remind everyone that we are a mission church and thus any agreements or contracts need to be entered by the Diocese and not Faith directly.

A general discussion followed as to what is consider outreach and what is Faith's mission.

George and Gary will work on building use guidelines for both the parish hall and the church.

Garden preliminary work: Pierce from the diocese can help with designing a community garden on Faith's property. Laura thought Brian Steinke might be interested in assisting. We will need to reach out to the Suquamish Tribe regarding any impacts on the adjacent salmon creek. Deb will contact the Suquamish Tribe.

Ministry Team Updates:

Lenten Program and Easter plans – Vicar Laura will hold the Vigil service on Easter morning at 5 AM (rather than Saturday night). There will also be the 9:30 Easter service followed by Easter brunch. Discussion of getting an Easter Banner made for approximately \$200. Deb will research cost of banner and signage for outside of Faith. There will be Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services as well.

Outreach – the first community meal was small but a great success! We have implemented an online volunteer signup with Unity Church for the next community meal on March 31st.

Communications – directory is almost complete.

Finance Bequests – Bob Hodges is working on this.

Building and Grounds – Fred reported that the hot water heater is being repaired but will need to be replaced in the near future.

Faith had a significant increase in the PSE bill in January and February. The increase was partially due to the winter snow storm but that doesn't explain the entire increase. Fred has contacted PSE who has agreed to do an energy audit so we can determine what is causing the increase in usage.

Fred and others are reinforcing the parish hall chairs to stabilize them.

Laura directly Louise to give the parish hall painter a \$500 check.

The next Bishops Meeting is Thursday April 25th

Other Business: Diane discussed the July vintage art show fundraiser possibly being Saturday July 6th.

Laura report that there will be another LEMs and Readers training on April 13 from 10 – noon.