

St. John's Vestry Minutes for 5/20/18

Rev. Jan Oller called our meeting to order at about 11:55 am. Present were the Reverend Jan, vestry members Nancy Bennett, Sheila Evans, Sue Fain, Jim Gary, Marc Hudson, Char Lingen, Chris Short, and Alan White.

Reverend Jan began the meeting with a prayer.

Approval of Minutes: After our prayer, the minutes for the April vestry meeting were approved.

Financials: Treasurer John Culley was not present so we did not discuss the financials in any detail. Nancy wondered why money is added to the outreach account when there is so much money already in it. Jan replied that the money is added to encourage the committee to spend some of the money.

Liaison Reports: It was noted we had our last Christian ed. session for the spring.

Wardens' Concerns: No concerns were mentioned.

Old Business

Audiovisual review project: Jim and Nancy prepared a draft of the survey about our audio visual equipment needs which was the basis for a discussion. Chris noted that the survey was weighted toward the status quo and problems with the present equipment. Another question might be about other media that we might consider adding to our capabilities. Jan offered that we should keep what we have if there is no problem with it. Chris feels that we should make sure that our technology keep pace with current trends. For instance, we should have a way to plug our phones into our media set up. Chris will send his suggestions to Nancy. He thinks that updating our technology shouldn't take much. Nancy is concerned that people may not respond to a questionnaire on Survey Monkey, but Jan replied that people are good about using Survey Monkey.

New Business

Quarterly Parish Meetings: Jan had heard that some churches were having quarterly parish meetings, and wondered if we should consider holding them. Nancy wondered if we should rather consider holding them semi-annually. Chris wondered if we needed to have more than our regular annual meeting. There was a consensus that we didn't need to have more parish meetings: we could always hold a special meeting should an issue arise that required parish-wide discussion.

"Can We Talk About Guns?" Conversation: Jan supplied us with a packet of short articles about the gun issue. She has talked with John Van Nuys and some other ministers in town, and the consensus was this would be a good opportunity for conversation. She urged us to look over the articles this week and decide whether we would like to take part in the conversation. There appeared to be some energy in the room for holding this conversation (on June 20th and 27th at Whitlock). She mentioned that the gun buy back event that the Presbyterian Church sponsored was met with some unpleasantness. Jan asks that we review the articles and get back to her asap.

Meeting in August: Workshop with Reverend Whitney Rice: Jan spoke with some enthusiasm about Whitney Rice, the assistant rector of the Zionsville Episcopal Church, and her workshop on "Rethinking Evangelism." The Vestry responded warmly to the idea, and Jan will get back to Whitney Rice to invite her to lead the workshop on Saturday, August 18th. Jan mentioned that since we will have this August meeting, the vestry will not meet in September (as well as in July).

Episcopalians at the Ballpark: Jan urged us to buy tickets for the Indianapolis Indians baseball game at Victory Field on July 28th. Bishop Jennifer will be attending. We'll gather at 5, and the game will start at 7:05.

Parking Signs in Front of the Church: Jim noted that our rust-stained signs will soon be replaced by new signs that have already been ordered and that they will be secured with stainless steel bolts.

It was noted that Mary Angela has great difficulty getting up the front steps, and we are worried about her—but she apparently has a key to the kitchen door so could still come in that way. A quandary.

It was noted that this Sunday was the last Sunday for the choir for this spring and the summer.

The meeting was adjourned at about 12:25 pm.

Note: Our next vestry meeting is at noon on June 17th.

--Respectfully submitted by Marc Hudson, clerk to the St. John's Vestry, on 5/28/18