

**THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD  
VESTRY MEETING  
Monday, March 11, 2019**

**Vestry Members Present:** Don Blankenship, Jan Harris, Jamey Bass, Jack Boyne, Duke Fentress, Maggie Fyfe, Van Giersch, Caryn Meade, Michael Springston, Ed Sharp, Sheldon Smith, Caryl Fuller-Treasurer and Cle Newsom-Registrar. Randy Coupland, Interim Financial Administrator also attended.

**Absent:** Kevin LeCount

**Clergy Present:** The Rev. Canon Patricia Grace

The meeting was called to order by Rev. Pat Grace at 6:01pm.

**Dwelling in the Word:**

The vestry spent some time reflecting on Genesis 12:1-9.

**Introduction of Cle Newsom, registrar:**

Cle Newsom was welcomed by the Vestry as the new registrar. An updated contact list of Vestry members, including phone numbers and email addresses was distributed. Rev. Pat asked the Vestry members to include Cle when sending committee reports.

**Approval of the Minutes:**

A motion was made by Van Giersh to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Jack Boyne. Motion carried.

**Rector's report (A copy is attached and included as a part of these minutes)**

Rev. Pat presented the Parochial report (copy attached) as a component of her Rector's report. This report is due annually to the national Church office by March 1 of each year. This is the first year in many years that CGS has submitted the report on time. Rev. Pat reviewed a few vital entries, such as the Active Baptized Members, Communicants in Good Standing, and average Sunday attendance. Duke Fentress, Van, and Jack assisted with the compilation of the report. Research of several documents/lists suggested 637 active members. We rounded to 800 active members due to the potential inaccuracy of our reports. Rev. Pat believes this count is more accurate than last year's report count of 1497. Rev. Pat also developed a formula for the members in Good Standing count that can be used for future years.

**Finance Report (A copy is attached and included as a part of these minutes)**

Caryl Fuller presented the Financial Recap for January 2019. In April, we will review the February and March reports. Overall, the revenue was higher than expected in January due to increased pledge contributions and Shepherd's Hall rentals. The expenses were in line with expectations. A motion was made by Van to accept the January Recap as presented. It was seconded by Don Blankenship. Motion carried.

The Finance Committee met March 10, 2019 and approved the 2019 Budget, which was presented to the Vestry tonight (copy provided) for final adoption. A discussion was held regarding the deficit budget and its implications, including the necessity of fundraisers. Van suggested the entire budget be presented during a congregational meeting so church members understand our finances and the need for additional revenue. A motion was made by Van to adopt the 2019 budget as presented. It was seconded by Jan Harris. Motion carried.

Jamey Bass presented the approval letter from BB&T stating the terms of the new loan for the Parish Life Center. Interest only payments are due monthly and annual principal payments will begin in April 2020. A motion was made by Jamey to accept the loan terms as presented. It was seconded by Jack. Motion carried. The next step is for the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese to approve the loan terms.

**Senior Warden's Report (A copy is attached and included as a part of these minutes)**

Don reviewed his written report. Martin Taylor, who chairs the committee seeking funding for a Youth Director, would like to attend the next Vestry meeting. A discussion was held regarding Henry Jackson's Eagle Scout project to beautify the exterior of the church. Jack suggested we send a thank you letter from the vestry for his wonderful landscaping work as well as the two benches built by Henry. All agreed.

**Junior Warden's Report (A copy is attached and included as a part of these minutes)**

Jan's written report recapped the tasks completed in February and the tasks that should be completed in the coming month.

**Christian Formation Report**

No report submitted.

**Business/Administration Report**

Ed Sharp reported that the Communications committee, headed by Kirk Royal, has started making cost-saving measures to our publications. Ed expressed concern on how much our publications convey the perception that CGS "claims" The Shepherd's Table as our own. Although our members started The Shepherd's Table, and CGS provides rented space, many others outside of CGS run and contribute to the its success. A discussion was held with a focus on what we could do to educate others on how The Shepherd's Table operates today. The upcoming Good Shepherd's Day will have a presentation on the Shepherd's Table.

**Fellowship Report**

Van reported the recent Chili Cook Off was a huge success. Dates for the upcoming Oyster Roast and Pig Pickin' events have been set. Jack suggested we update the Church calendar to avoid date conflicts amongst the different committees.

### **Leadership Report**

No report submitted as Kevin LeCount has been hospitalized.

### **Membership Report**

Michael Springston stated the committee was meeting this coming weekend.

### **Mary Beth Fee Center Report**

Please refer to Don's Senior Warden report.

### **Outreach Report**

Please refer to Don's Senior Warden report.

### **Pastoral Care Report (A copy is attached and included as a part of these minutes)**

Shelton Smith observed that a small group of volunteers supported the Beyond Our Doors folks and that a larger group supported the congregational members' needs. He asked if we could link our groups together for better overall support of all of the church's pastoral care needs.

### **Stewardship**

Jack reported that Frank Fee had volunteered to chair the Stewardship committee for the next several years. Jack advocates separate committees for legacy gifts and stewardship pledges. Currently there is no one on the Legacy Guild. He also reported that the average household pledge is high, which is a result of the low number of donor households. We need more contributing members. Jack suggested the Stewardship committee coordinate efforts with the Membership committee.

### **Search Committee update**

Jan reported the new rector job has been posted. Applications will be accepted until May 3, 2019. The search committee members will be meeting with Canon Massey on March 19, 2019. It is likely the applications will be reviewed by Canon Massey, (and perhaps her staff) and only the best applications will be passed to the Search Committee.

### **Worship/Liturgy**

Caryn Meade stated her new committee would be meeting soon.

### **Old Business**

There was no Old Business.

### **New Business**

Ed reminded the Vestry that the Parish Retreat would be Labor Day weekend at the Trinity Center. Rev. Pat asked that he reserve a room for the new rector. Ed will make an announcement at next Sunday's services to encourage attendees. There will be unstructured time for attendees to enjoy themselves, as well as collective time to learn and grow together.

Jamey stated that Paul Henry asked about a church yard sale with 100% of proceeds to be donated to the Church. Jan suggested we might have a food truck at the sale. Rev. Pat asked for a written proposal so the Vestry can better consider the plan.

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Jack to adjourn the meeting at 8:13pm. Seconded by Jan. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,

*Cle E. Newsom*

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Registrar