

Church of St. Benedict
Minutes of Bishop's Committee Meeting
Held on
Monday, June 11th

Present: Sr. Warden Mark Wright, Jr. Warden Theresa O'Neill, Treasurer Peg Bauman, BC Members Christine Billone, Esther Simonson, Laura Ostrovecky, John Gush, Barry Conlin, Dave Smith, Clerk Stacey Johnson

Absent: Phil Bauman

Opening: The meeting opened at 7:30 PM with a group reading and prayer.

Approval of Minutes: Mark asked for approval on BC meeting minutes for meeting held on May 14th. Theresa O'Neill made some corrections on the spot that were noted by members. Laura Ostrovecky then made a motion to accept meeting minutes and Barry Conlin seconded the motion.

Finance Report:

Peg Bauman distributed the May financials. Several questions were raised and Peg asked that she have time to make some corrections and that finance be addressed towards the latter part of the meeting. Peg also noted that Tom Henry (new Treasurer) is going to clean up the Equity portion of the balance sheet.

After the corrections were made, Peg noted that the priest had been paid twice as well as the mortgage in the month of May resulting in a negative month.

Motion made by John Gush to place May budget on file for audit. Seconded by Theresa O'Neill and accepted by all present.

(The numbers indicated below correspond with the Meeting Agenda item numbers)

4. Paintball Update

Dave said that so far there is great organization and great volunteering but that extra drop-ins are welcome.

5. Review of Meeting with Scott Hayashi and Tom Smith

Mark: Reiterated that the emphasis needs to be on expressing the positive side to the congregation, that the cup is half full.

Christine: We are turning forward rather than focused on the past. Stay positive.

Dave: Make a comment next Sunday about Scott and Randall and the great feedback provided, that they are encouraging and are working with us (whoever opens the church should do this).

Mark: Our physical plant is our asset, typically it's a liability. We are working on relationships and growth.

Theresa: Their ideas were many of the same that we've discussed and overall it was hopeful, with the right leadership.

Mark: We need to pick a few items and do them well.

Christine: We could also use Meghan Connery who specializes in growth. It would cost.

John: We need an enthusiastic realist. The search committee needs to clearly define needs and purpose.

Christine: We need to let Randall know that we don't want Beth directly involved.

Dave: Let's not put Beth in an awkward position.

Mark will talk to Randall about the situation.

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6. Search Committee Update

Goals and points of interest:

- An updated list of names was provided by Christine: Leticia, Alice, Grace, Suzette, Ruan, Jeff, Carol Todd, Bill Scheets, Cindy Johnson.
- We want to pull the committee together for a meeting on June 20th.
- We want a group that represents the diversity of the congregation.
- We can invite people not included on this initial list.
- Esther wants to approach Clement, Ben, Erik Scheets (but we don't want two family members, Bill and Erik both on the committee).
- Christine suggested more than one African American.
- Mark suggested making a list of all potential candidates, ranking them, and then asking each to be on the committee.

It was decided that the committee would consist of a total of 7 people – 6 members plus Christine. The list was narrowed down to the following:

1. Leticia, who will be asked to chair the committee
2. Grace
3. Bill
4. Emily
5. Ben Davis/Jeff
6. Faye
7. Suzette
8. Alice
9. Jeff
10. Ruan

Calls will be made by Thursday to determine who is willing to serve in the final group. A meeting will be held on Weds, June 20th for just the search committee.

7. Focus Groups Update

Dave Smith is the coordinator for the focus groups. Dave provided a handout identifying scheduled dates, potential questions and overall goals of the focus groups. All focus groups will be completed by July 22nd. The group decided that we also want input from the youth of the church, which Randall encouraged as well. Barry will announce the focus group information on Sunday. Dave and Christine are working on the final questions, with input from Randall.

8. Party for Catharine on July 29th

Courtenay and Alice are in charge of coordinating this event. Theresa will setup and finalize all information and expectations. We will finalize the event at the next BC meeting.

9. Gift for Catharine

A letter needs to go out before the 1st of July requesting donations. Peg will handle this. Christine will provide the mailing list for the Abbey without Catharine knowing. Theresa noted that Helen and Carol Todd are putting the quilt together. The finance committee will discuss a potential donation from the church.

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10. Office Administration

- Clergy has been set for the month of August. A supply priest will be provided for the entire month as well as for July 22nd when Catharine is out of town.
- Mark will oversee Dawn during transition (after July 29th)
- Martha talked Victoria into coming back on July 22nd, she is gone until then.
- Prayer Healing Team – Esther and Courtenay are emergency (whatever is needed) for August and September. Mark also noted that if a priest is needed we can get one from Downers Grove.
- Peg and Leticia will be the church sign coordinators.
- Leticia will be getting the directory out soon.
- Finance Committee has no major updates.

11. Worship Time Survey Results – will be provided at next meeting

12. Hospitality Committee - Brunches

There is no actual group in charge of this. We don't have it. We need to a group together.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 16, 2007 at 7:30 PM.

Closing: Motion to adjourn and the meeting ended at approximately 9:30 PM.