Church of the Holy Spirit Vestry & St. Marks Bishop's Committee Meeting Minutes

January 6, 2019

Present: Rev. Kelly Sundberg Seaman, Rev. Deacon Maryan Davis, Kate Donahue, Joan Bowers, Kathy Lennox, Lew Overaker, Dick Osborne, Paula Hancock, Deb Holland, Angie Criscuolo, Bea Thibeault, Anne Hunnewell, Richard Bennett and Wayne Trombley.

Absent: Katie Patten, Katie Laucks, Shannon Inkel.

Scripture reflection opened the meeting at 11:04 AM.

Minutes: Rev. Kelly made a motion to approve the minutes of December 2, 2018 meeting as distributed. The motion passed unanimously.

Kelly thanked those Vestry members whose terms were ending. The following members' terms were ending: Bea Thibeault and Dick Bennett as co-treasurers. They will become overseers of St. Mark's finances. Kate Laucks, Shannon Inkel, Lew Overaker and Angie Criscuolo. Kate Donahue and Kathy Lennox each have one more year in their terms. Dick Osborne's term will continue.

Joan Bowers summarized the 4th session of the Renewal Works. A complete summary of Renewal Works will be presented to the Vestry and Bishop's Committee winthin a month. It was a wonderful experience for all members of the committee. It was determined that CHS and St. Marks are in a good place at this time. The committee would like to see an extension of leadership and ownership across the church. The members of the Renewal Works team were Suzanne Ring, Ruth Harlow, Cecilia Cox, Dick Hunnewell, Guy Tillson, Angie Criscuolo, Beatrice Thibeault, Joan Bowers and the Rev. Kelly Sundberg-Seaman.

Wardens Report – CHS: Joan clarified a question she had about a resolution that came before Diocesan Convention in November 2018. She advised that the resolution she was asking about was passed at Convention and was titled Renewing Our Faith. It is a program that the National Church is implementing nationwide. One of the goals of the program is for Christians to pursue a deeper spirituality through participation in retreats, conferences, opportunities via the internet and Christian formation. This program ties in with Renewal Works. Joan also spoke about Bible Challenge. It is a daily opportunity to read three chapters of both the Old and New Testaments. The introduction of the reading materials were written by Rt. Rev. Frank Griswold.

Wardens Report – St. Marks: Deb advised that Mr. Moshar has completed the refinishing of our kitchen window. He has offered to do any outside painting.

Jr. Warden Report – CHS: Dick Osborne reported that there are no changes in the buildings at CHS. The CLC is still structurally sound. The walkways are still unstable and will need to be rebuilt. The outside windows need repair. The basement is still very moist. We still need to watch any ice build-up on Griswold. Plowing of the parking area is adequate at this time. It was suggested that the parking area be sanded after storms to diminish the build-up of ice in the parking area. It was further suggested to request our plow company to shovel the stairs to the CLC and the door to Griswold. CHS needs someone or a group of people who can shovel the entrances to our buildings in the wintertime. This group needs to deal with the upkeep of the grounds at CHS.

Deacon's Report: Deacon Maryan Davis reported about the success of our Faith at Home Program. In Advent the package distributed contained an Advent wreath, makings for Christmas cards and other activities that the family can do at home. These packages were sent to our Sunday School families, families who find it hard to worship with us on Sunday mornings, families who attended our Saturday evening Eucharists. Deacon Maryan is creating Epiphany packages that contain the stringing of stars and coloring activities which will be distributed to our families. In addition, each parishioner was sent home with some chalk and a blessing prayer to bless their homes for the Episphany season. The program will be extended to our newly baptized as well as our elders and shut-ins.

Clergy Report: Kelly advised the Vestry/Bishop's Committee that the Mission Resources Committee has funded her upcoming London trip in the amount of just under $10,000. The Mission Resources Committee has also funded the following programs: 1) A program titled Building Leadership which is a 3 day training session to learn how to connect with our neighbors. The Committee is funding a Christian formation project to expand and support leadership beyond the Vestry/Bishop's Committee and Ministry chairs to include more of our membership. 2) to support Vestry training and the distribution of a Vestry handbook to incoming Vestry members. 3) Sharing our Stories: This program involves the Church distributing gift cards to individual parishioners to invite other parishioners or others to coffee and conversation. It is a program of listening to each other's stories. 4) a program to distribute bibles to members of our congregation. These bibles are in narrative form and deletes the geneology portions of the bible. 5) We will create a library of discipleship and evangelism. We are looking for someone to oversee our gift cards. We are looking for someone to oversee our library. The Mission Resource Committee is funding the creation of a joint website for CHS and St. Mark's for ease of surfers to find us.

2019 Nomination Slate: The Vestry/Bishop's Committee was presented with the following slate of nominees to be presented to the congregations at our 2019 Annual Meeting. The following slate was presented:

Senior Warden

* Joan Bowers a 3 year term as co-Senior Warden CHS. Term: 2022
* Ruth Harlow a 3 year term as co-Senior Warden St. Marks. Term 2022
* Deb Holland a 3 year term as Junior Warden St. Marks. Term 2022
* Wayne Trombley nominated as co-treasurer for CHS/St. Marks for a 2 year term. Term 2021.
* Paula Hancock as co-clerk for a 2 year term. Term 2021
* Katie Patten member at large for a 2 year term. Term 2021
* John Michaud member at large for a 2 year term. Term 2021
* Guy Tillson member at large for a 3 year term. Term 2022
* Cecilia Cox member at large for a 3 year term. Term 2022.
* Kathy Lennox, Kate Donahue have one more year on their current terms. Dick Osborne continues his term.
* Lew Overaker, Kathy Lennox and Ruth Harlow will be our representatives to Lakes Region Convocation and Diocesan Convention. Their terms have been renewed.

Dick Osborne made a motion to accept the full slate of nominees for election at our Annual Meeting. Joan Bowers seconded the motion. The moition passed unanimously.

Financials: Wayne Trombley distributed the 2019 budget. He advised that both congregations have sufficient monies to see them through our present deficits. It may take up to 3 years to resolve our present deficits. Our projected deficit for 2019 will be approximately $37,000. Our operating budget is lean. Our projected pledges income for 2019 is anticipated to be $68,000. Our present enodowments are valued at between $17,-18,000. It is anticipated that we will ask for a Fair Share adjustment this year. He further advised that the Diocese is 100% behind our move forward. The Budget for 2019 needs to be approved and voted on by the Vestry/Bishop's Committee. It is then presented to our congregations at Annual Meeting.

The Vestry and Bishop's Committee will need to review and discuss Kelly's clergy compensation. We need to discuss the possibility of a raise. It is not being considered with this 2019 budget.

Wayne advised us that we will need to reapply for a grant for Kelly's work at Plymouth State University. We are awaiting notification of a possible grant for college work from the National Church. We should be notified sometime in February. Wayne advised that there is $110,000 in grant monies available through the Mission Resource Committee. It is distributed on a first come first served basis.

Joan Bowers made a motion to accept the 2019 budget as presented. Deb Holland seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Annual Meeting Update: Kelly advised that the joint Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, January 27, 2019 at the Holderness School chapel. The service is scheduled for 10 AM. The Annual Meeting will be incorporated into the service. The service will be focused on All Saints. We will remember those members we have lost in the last year. Ash Morgan will be present to play our music.

Adjournment: A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 12:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Hancock