Vestry Agenda of Trinity Church

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| Date of Meeting: | **May 15, 2019** |
| Location: | **Trinity Church, Newtown, CT** |
| **Attending:** Adam Bowditch, Jenny Montgomery, Carrie Combs, Beth Thompson, Laurie Trotto, Jack, Rick, Hope, Beth, Patrick, Connie, David; Leon |
| Meeting items for discussion |
| **7:00 – 7:20** | **As a Community of Theological Imagination** |  |
| 1. | Eagle Scout Project Proposal | Adam |
|  | Notes: Adam presented a proposal for his Eagle Scout Project to restore the Memorial Garden Pavilion. The work would include power washing and restoration to the structure (excluding the roof, which is a much larger job), weeding, and installing pavers for a walkway. The Vestry voted unanimously to support Adam’s project. | Jenny |
|  | Dwelling in the Word | Carrie |
| 7:20 – 7:30 | **Doing the fiduciary work of the Church** |  |
| 2. | Consent to the minutes of the April 2019 vestry meeting | Beth |
|  | Notes: Approved by consent. |  |
| 3. | Consent of April Treasurer’s Report | Pat |
|  | Notes: Approved by consent. |  |
| 4. | Summer Office Hours | Jenny |
|  | Notes: During the summer Kim goes to 20 hours/week. Beginning Monday, June 24 she will move to 20 hours, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 8:00 to 2:30. Returns to 30 hours a week on Monday, August 19. Jenny is experimenting with taking Thursday’s rather than Monday’s are her Sabbath days during the summer. |  |
| 7: 30 – 8:30 | **Forming Disciples and Apostles for God’s Mission** |  |
| 5. | What Are You Hearing and How Are People Doing? | All |
|  | Notes: No one is hearing much. Heard lots of joy when Jenny returned. Unusually quiet. Hearing more positives than negatives. People were positive about Cate staying on.  |  |
| 6 | Debrief from PIC’s leave | All |
|  | Notes: Jenny has found her return to work to be easy and her transition has been smooth. She has been getting up to speed on pastoral issues. A great way to start was welcoming the Ride 26 group into our space and helping to send them off. It was suggested that we reach out to Sue Roman to let the Ride 26 group know that they are welcome to use our space in the future.  |  |
| 7. | Debrief from Spring Training | All |
|  | Notes: Leon felt he learned a lot about the way the Episcopal Church and the way it works, and heard a lot about using facilities more efficiently. The diocese is working on an approved vendor list that would provide discounts to parishes that use their services. Many of us felt fortunate in comparison to other churches who had little or no clergy. Loved the music playing during the opening and how it set a great tone for the day. We were reminded to pay attention to the syllabuses when selecting our courses for next year. Jenny thanked us for our participation. NOTE: There will be a round of training for Stephen Ministers January through April (50 hours of training). Stephen Ministry would like to do a presentation to the Vestry to help us really understand where we are today with Stephen Ministry. We agreed that our June or July meeting would be a good time depending on Ron’s schedule. |  |
| 8. | Discuss Curate Transition and Formation Transition Post-Carrie: | All |
|  | Notes: Carrie’s last Sunday here will be July 21. To ensure that she leaves us well, we will be sending her off with blessings, prayers and a celebration of her time with us. Jenny put together a job description and sent it off. We’ve had seven applicants, two didn’t seem to be a good fit based on their experience/situation. The two that Jenny was most excited about took other calls. Despite being on top of the process, the way things unfolded with the candidates, we have probably missed our window of opportunity for this year to find a seminary senior to serve as curate. We discussed if we must limit ourselves to candidates in the tri-state area, given that we would be expected to pay expenses for moving and interviewing related to an out-of-area candidate.Because formation for all age groups continues to be one of our biggest needs (someone to lead the children’s liturgy on Sundays, work with those on a confirmation journey, work with the youth group, and strengthen adult formation), Jenny wanted to discuss other possible ways to fill this need.Jenny has a lay person in mind who has expressed interest in coming here and she is currently discerning the call to come to Trinity as she waits to hear about another position. She can give us a decision in mid-June and for now we decided to wait for her decision. In the meantime, Patrick and Hope will discuss the financial aspect of searching outside of the curate process and hiring a lay person.  |  |
| 10. | Discuss Mutual Discernment with PIC | All |
|  | Notes: Discussions/prayer/discernment discussion will take place in August. |  |
| 11. | Set Priorities for the Summer | All |
|  | Notes: Jenny wanted to get the Vestry’s help and input on the following items that need to be tackled this summer:* Worship—need to put some structure around Worship Organization—Laurie, Gordon, Jenny
* Carrie Leaving Well—Carrie will write an e-News article, Jenny can draft a letter to the parish inviting them to a celebration for Carrie on July 21, Carrie to stand up in church on Sunday, Property to discuss renting the Curate House—Carrie, Jenny, Leon
* Formation Transition—June Meeting—Vestry
* Safe Church Policies that need to be updated/adopted—Jenny to forward model policies to the Vestry (via Beth) and put on agenda for next month—Jenny, Beth
* Screening & Training Protocols—Put in Place—Beth
* Parish Life—Needs Organization
* PIC Process—Do Next Step—Patrick will work to set a date for the meeting with Jack—Patrick
* Staff Annual Evaluations—Jenny
* Fall Planning—with Christian Formation—need to provide dates for forums—Jenny
* Women of Trinity—needs organization—some exciting things in the fall and a retreat is planned—Laurie, Jenny
* Men of Trinity—Cookout—Joe, Pat
* Racism—planning justice and healing—needs to be included in parochial report—reach out to Sue Roman—Carrie drafting a paragraph on our Feb. activity, WHO IS REACHING OUT TO SUE?
* Stewardship—planning—Finance/Hope
* Budgeting—planning—Finance/Hope
* June 9 Breakfast Sunday Discussion of PIC Timeline and inform the Parish—Dennis, Laurie, Patrick

We may need to consider having a half-day Vestry on-site retreat to tackle some of these items. |  |
| 7: 30 – 8:50 | **Appreciations, Regrets and Learnings** | All |
| 8:50 – 9:00 | **Fed by Word and Sacraments** |  |
| 12. | Pray for One Another |  |
| 13. | Compline |  |
| Connected to the Wider Body of Christ |

*IMPORTANT DATES COMING UP:*

June 9--Pentecost, Breakfast Sunday and Forum

**Brainstorming List:**

**Items from July Meeting:**

* Could we sponsor trash disposal on Main Street, would be especially helpful for dog walkers.
* The Fire Department needs volunteers, are there ways we could help, aside from becoming firefighters?
* Where are we on our four goals. Put updates on our August agenda. For example, where are we going with our “small groups.” What is happening organically? Where are we “stuck.”

**Items from August Meeting:**

* Creating a place on the website for the Vestry and posting the minutes in the e-news each month

**Items from September Meeting:**

* As we look to celebrate our 150th anniversary, should we look more broadly to include the rest of the Main Street community.

**Items from October Meeting:**

* Renting an ice cream cart and serving the community to invite them in to Trinity.

**Items from November Meeting**