

Bishop's Committee meeting May 30, 2015

Present everybody except Jane Howard. Bob Hughes has Jane's proxy.

Sarah Forhan, Dawn MacKechnie, Stephanie Holdgate, Pete Linkroum, Pat Henking, John Hodge, Bob Hughes

The air outside is green.

Pat calls us to order.

Agenda

Responses mtg with Bishop

Minutes

Treasury

Bedford Project

Merrimack

Services

Ribfest

Yard Sales

Picnic?

Stewardship

Disaster Prep

Calendar

Minutes

Minutes accepted with corrections

There should be some memo about the meeting with Bishop

Kudos to Sarah for the Craft day

Lots of contact with community people. Especially children

There was a request for a poetry slam.

Treasury

Electric bill drain has been fixed. Wheeler Chapel will split the overage with us.

(Cause was a problem with the furnace fan.)

Vote to amend line item for previous year's expenses.

Put it under administration. Budget notes should stay to the end of the year's monthly budget reports.

Motion passed.

A new page was added to the monthly report showing unpaid bills pending.

John stated that we should have a priority order for paying bills.

We need to check on pension leeway.

Probably on others, but we need to document what they are.

Motion to accept passed.

Other Treasury business.

Pete (representing the Wheeler Trust) met with Sarah and worked out credit for the Eversource bill.

Our lease will expire on July 1. Some ideas for tweaking it have been stored up over the year. Why not move electric and snow plowing bills over to the Trust-Trust will then bill church for its share?

The relevant part of the lease is Paragraph 3 (titled rent). Other corrections in punctuation could be made. If the chapel pays the bill, the pressure is off the church regarding cut-off dates.

The church will continue to pay ¼ of the property insurance. In the current language. It is now spread out over the year.

Where is the finalized lease? Hopefully there will be no changes that will require a lawyer. The Trust meets this Tuesday and then in July. We can vote it on our June meeting and send it to the trust to vote on at their convenience.

If the Trust has surplus operating income, they intend to give it back to the church.

Moving this out of sequence-Stephanie mentioned the water faucets in the bathroom are not safe. They are backward. This is something for the Trust to look into.

Yard Sales

Dates for Yard Sales: July 18 and Labor Day weekend. Sept 5.

Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting with Bishop and Kevin on May the 5th.

We need to stop thinking about relationship with diocese as antagonistic. They can be a resource and we should take advantage of them. We failed to bring up our requests for audits which have not been done. Part of the reason we ended up in trouble is that nobody else looked at the books. Prior bishops looked on us as a problem. Current Bishop looks at us as a solution.

We have been resistant to approaching Mission resource committee and we need to do that. There still was no solution to our budget shortfall proposed. We need to vote on the 7 % withdrawal from the Solomon Fund.

And obtain the Mission Resource forms.

If clergy expense roughly equals pledge amount you're doing all right. Kevin said that. We're not dying, just pot bound. 7 % law does not apply to money from Blair estate. However our legal advisor says we shouldn't take more than 3% (Patricia Mellor) We were originally asking for 24%. 7 % is about 4 grand. Not 12 grand we asked for.

Will asking for relief require an expenditure of time that exceeds what we make from it?

Outreach

Places where Merrimack gathers: Rotary Merrimack, Charley's Café, DW Diner
We need to do research on Merrimack's needs. John mentioned the 4 p's of marketing:
Product, Placement, Price, Promotion

Pat Hunter is from Bedford.
Bobby Ferman lives in Bedford. He is a retired diocesan functionary.
Laurel Hill Jams and Jellies.
Jonathan's Jewelers on 101. Member of Goffstown.
Lise's friend is a Bedford police officer.
Feast of St Francis- ask local vets to publicize this thing.
SpCA

Price = time
Placement- community settings
The Copper Door. Various markets
Cross promoting
Band stand in Bedford.

(At this point, Stephanie left and gave her proxy to Dawn.)

Motion to explore reaching out to Bedford.
Carried

Motion to proceed with summer night. With Merrimack, NH.
Carried.

The summer night service is not necessarily just Christian. We need to reach out to others.

Rib Fest/ Community Service

Jane needs orders by Monday to get embroidered shirts for the Rib Fest
Church agrees to provide help for the town Fourth of July event

Summer Schedule

Pat recommends we continue two services thru July.
Sue LeSeuer wants to do one service in Aug. There are 5 Sundays in August.
Motion carried to only have one service in August.

Pat will pursue a picnic opportunity.

Stewardship

The Stewardship committee needs to finish up the central product.

John says we actually need to push money, which lead to the idea that the focus should be on money. Pat wanted to look up the concept of “filthy lucre”.

The Gypsy definition of a millionaire is someone who has spent a million dollars. We would like to do YesVember again.

If our income increases, our fair share will go up. Therefore we need to apply for relief for next year. Therese and Pat will work on the Mission Resource form and bring it to the June meeting.

Pat said another thing we could ask for is a grant to do mission. If we begin to explore these questions about serving a larger community (Bedford) we may need a grant to do that.

We are limited in agreement with advice from diocese.
Motion to ask for 7 % withdrawal from the Solomon Fund carried.

Next meeting: June 27th of June.

Adjourn

Bob Hughes
Typist