

St. Mark's - Casper

Vestry Meeting Minutes of 6/20/11

Members Present: Mark Mathern, Pat Hrnicek, Jane Cassel, Lyn George, Kathy Nickerson, Margie Roberts, Brian Gross, Traute Gilbert, Nancy Johnson, Gwen Colgrove, Jeff Harmsen, Clint Hernandez, Rev. Kay Rohde, Cindy King

Absent: Melissa Hyde, Kayla Hyde

Guests: Jackie Hotle, Mike Bon

Opening prayer was offered by Kay.

Mike Bon reported on his mission vision now that he is back in Casper and hopes to go back to Indonesia again in the capacity to *serve, teach English* and *to be involved in individual crisis relief situations*. The challenge is to get a permanent visa, as he only had short-term visas this last time and that was very frustrating, and he ended up having to come home in March 2011. In the nine months he was there, he served about 35 Indonesian Christians in a Muslim area in the capacity of tech. stuff, teaching English and grant writing. When he broke his leg in Dec., he then worked in the office.

He shared that he has just been offered to go back to Indonesia to teach in a paying capacity, and will be deciding in the next week or so. He still has to get a permanent visa, but would be working with a good Australian connection this time. The question for Mike was how to let those that donate towards his mission work know about his current transition; not being in Indonesia for a while.

Mark asked if a formal note from vestry should be sent to contributors informing them of Mike's current situation? (There had been one donation in mid-April.)

A It was decided that Mike, Mark and Traute will work on a letter to contributors by 7/1.

Mike said the bulk of his money is spent on housing (about \$2200/9 mo.) and transportation (flying to and from Singapore to renew his short-term visa) and some food, plus around \$1000 in medical expenses when he broke his leg. *He asked vestry to think about what the relationship is going to be; redefine. Should there be a new discernment committee?* He thanked everyone for all their support and encouragement over this time and Vestry expressed their appreciation of Mike and his mission work.

Approval of minutes: Corrections included who made the motion to accept the financials: Gwen & Margie (2nd). Also, under 'Old Business', Sunday school teacher's should read teachers'.

Search – Jackie Hotle

Jackie shared they have their last interview next week. Search will be meeting the evening of 6/30 to finalize recommendations for Vestry. Each candidate was given the same scripture to lead a bible study with the search committee and all were very different.

Budget wise, they started with \$19,000 and took out a \$3500 debit card to use for the candidate interview expenses (meals, etc). She stated there is plenty left for vestry to bring in the final candidates if necessary.

A Tristan told her the Bishop wants to meet with vestry when they make their decision, before the call is made. We need to meet with Tristan [and Vern]; Mark will look into this.

Discussion centered around a meeting between vestry and search after search makes their recommendations:

* It was decided that vestry will meet on **Thurs. 7/7 between 6 & 6:15** and have dinner together. [Traute volunteered to do the dinner and the rest will bring dessert.]

* Search will join us around 7:30 for discussion and dessert.

* Vestry will then regroup after meeting with search for final discussion.

It will necessary to get the candidates here as soon as possible if vestry decides to bring them back in (and the spouse if they want them along). Dates discussed were 7/19, 20, 21, 25, 26 or 27.

Interim Rector's Report – Kay Rohde

Kay shared about CREDO that was sponsored by the Church Pension Fund; one week of clergy well-being in four areas: physical, vocational, financial and spiritual. She has put together a CREDO plan for herself: who I am; what is my core, realizing she has not been nourished and fed – “drinking from the bucket and not the well”. She then spent a week at home with her mom and an aunt – many memories!

Vestry Minutes of 6/20/11

Pg 2

She came back refreshed and ready to move toward the transition. There is a "Fresh Start" program for churches in transition (a national [program]) and she would like to train for that. She recapped that the pastoral issues have been complex. We had a memorial service on 6/11; on-going pre-marital counseling for an Aug. wedding and EYE (Episcopal Youth Event) is 6/22-26 in Minneapolis to which she and Rev. Tom Fiske from Gillette will be taking some local kids and 10 from around the diocese.

Sr. Warden's Report – Mark

Mark gave a summary of the 'mutual ministry review' that was done with Kay on 6/2. The committee went over her contract; what went well and what did not work well, and any unfinished business there might be. Kay's last day will be 7/31/11. Mark asked for an accounting of her hours, vacation, cont. ed., etc. in order to wind everything up before she leaves, as this could affect the end financial accounting for her.

A Vestry needs to familiarize themselves with the profile and how it connects to the new rector – "homework" before it meets on the July 7th.

Financials – Kathy Nickerson, Treasurer

Noted that many plate givers are now 'pledgers', so that's good.

A Kathy will check on the 'clergy pension premium' question by Lyn; why 0 on this month's report.

Also, there was \$500 donated in honor of Ted and Traute Gilbert, which was put into *special donor* account/gen. operating. Kathy will ask the donor where they would like it to go. Vestry asked Traute if she had a preference on where they might like to see that donation go and she felt somewhere in the outreach area, deferring to Vestry. Vestry recommended outreach and possibly the Benevolent Fund.

Kathy said the audit will be starting soon.

There was a motion by Lyn to accept the financials as presented; Jane 2nd. Motion carried.

Parochial Report

Copies of the Parochial Report were given to vestry to approve and obtain the required signatures so it can be sent to the National Church office (and our diocese). There was a motion to accept by Traute; Brian 2nd. Motion carried. Note: Lyn commented on the lack of timeliness of this report over the years.

Kay's Farewell Celebration

Vestry and Kay agreed that her farewell celebration will be on Sunday – 7/24 due to the fact that several vestry members will not be here on July 31st. (Kay's last day)

A Plan the potluck at the July vestry meeting. Put the information in the newsletter and on our web site.

Kay closed the meeting with prayer.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy King

A indicates an *action item*.