

Parish Board Minutes, 10/2/2017

Attendees: Michele David, James Shilabar, Ben Davis, Dave Demerjian, Gene Thompson-Grove, Alice Mark, Charles Sandmel, Laura Hatfield, Rev Rebecca

Absent: David Cave (sent input on email re: search)

We began with a chalice lighting and check in "Let's use this moment to leap beyond our fear, landing upright on the earth...."

Confidential minister's report was presented.

Finance Committee report (Ben Davis):

1. We agreed to quarterly reports and monthly updates during Parish Board. Board was happy to get finance committee minutes prior to Board meeting.
2. We discussed pursuing 501c3 status for the church. The Board would like us to look into this and hear more about the possible risks/benefits. Ben Gibbons is doing this work and we will vote on whether to pursue at the next meeting.
3. Need to recruit one more member to Finance Committee. **Action item - Ben asked Board members to think about congregants who would be open to this Committee.**
4. Finance Council – Ben sent a message out to program council for reps to finance council. Ben and Board feel that this council helped make budgeting process transparent and smooth.
5. Finance Council Meeting – Ben discussed "Mission Based Accounting" as a way of ensuring that our resources are aligned with our mission and would like to take this up at the next Finance Council meeting. This could also be a way of communicating during canvass and the budgeting process. Board members were strongly encouraging of this idea.
6. Need to recruit one more canvass co-chair. Potential names were suggested and Board members will reach out to them. **Action item – James, Michelle, and Charles will reach out to potential canvass co-chairs.**

Search Committee

Ellie Boynton and Laura Walters joined the Parish Board for a confidential discussion of search to be used for the congregational record.

Decision making (James, Michelle)

James and Michelle introduced a grid of decision making that included how the minister, board, and congregation makes decisions at church with space for how this could potentially be shifted. This was introduced for consideration for a deeper discussion at the next meeting.

Approval of minutes:

**Board unanimously approved minutes from 9/11/2017 meeting.**

Check-out:

We asked for plus/delta. We ended with our usual prayer.

<b>Plus</b>	<b>Delta</b>
Finance committee minutes received before meeting	Time management – we didn't discuss search among ourselves prior to their presence at the meeting
Agenda was clear – thanks for asking for input ahead of time	Room setup – chalice and matches not in room. Took time at the beginning of meeting to locate them
Those who sent thoughts about search prior to meeting felt that this helped	
Board members felt that the search discussion was collaborative	
Board members felt listened to	
Agenda available in advance	