THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD  
Cashiers, North Carolina  
Minutes of the Vestry  
Wednesday, July 17, 2019, 3 pm

Members Present: The Rev. Rob Wood, Irv Welling (Senior Warden), David Young (Junior Warden), Lawson Kelly, Scott Turner, Martie Kingree, Perrin Dargan, Janis Cox, Nora Jones, Ray Daniel, Patch Foster, Ralph Greene (Treasurer), Ellen Albright (Clerk).

Members Absent: all present

Call to Order and Prayer: Rob opened the meeting at 3:06 pm.

Certification of Quorum: 10 present – we have a quorum.

Devotion: no devotion

Vestry Covenant: recited in unison. *We acknowledge our undertaking as Vestry members to love one another as Christ loves us, to treat each other with respect, to constantly seek God’s wisdom through prayer and discernment, and to be servant leaders of our congregation.*

Consent Agenda, the following were approved:
- the July Agenda
- the June Minutes
- Rector’s Report
- Sr. Warden Report
- Jr. Warden’s Report

Annual Meeting: general review and review of table discussions
- Meeting went well, good attendance, and good atmosphere
- Table discussions
  - Service time feedback was good
    - One person still prefers an 8 o’clock service even in the winter.
  - Mission statement. Some felt like it was too long, especially to try to remember. Explained that we really wanted to focus on the three pillars. Several tables felt that way.
  - Some were concerned with the adjectives used in the statement. Welcoming and worship seem to not go together as much. Redeeming – some of our gifts do help people with needs but is not necessarily redeeming.

Rector’s Vision Report
- Gift of the Jesus and child sculpture. A discussion and vote on receiving it.
  - Wes Wofford is gifting the sculpture to us. The original is going to Social Circle in Georgia and we would get a reproduction.
  - Need to make sure that it will be delivered to us as coordinating transportation will be difficult.
  - John Warren will find a piece of rock to act as the base. Will confirm that this will be part of the gift.
Though the sculpture itself would be great to have here. Could be an anchor for the new meditation garden that we may be planning. Seeing Jesus laugh with the children was beautiful and very moving. You can see something different in it from every angle.

1 1/3 size – if Jesus were standing he would be 10 feet tall. But it doesn’t seem out of proportion.

Costs may be able to be included in the larger expense of landscaping the meditation garden and columbarium.

Perrin motioned approval contingent on there being no cost to GS for delivery, receipt or erection of the sculpture, including the base.

Seconded by David

All in favor

Will also need to make sure that the delivery is scheduled in conjunction with our landscape project. APPROVED

Do we need to hire a landscaper/gardener to be on staff here? Keep Andrew and his crew as maintenance. Get a quote from Andrew on that increase or maybe hire someone else. We have places where we could have more colorful plants. Is that just from parishioners or do we hire a service/person to do that?

Stewardship – don’t want to ask for gifts too much, but...

August will be the time for scholarships. Will be having a few dinners to raise funds for the Conkle-Rowe Scholarship Endowment Fund. Want to reach $1 million sooner rather than later so that we can draw off of it for current scholarships

Pisgah Legal is also doing some fundraising at the church and in the community.

Vestry Goals and continuing focus

Our 2019 Goals (summarized)
1. Revise Mission statement --
   i. some work being done tomorrow with the mission statement group
2. Weave results of the MMR into our work as vestry
3. Revise and refocus stewardship efforts – on going after this year’s annual drive.
   i. Just met today and will be meeting more in Sept & Oct
4. Complete Land Swap with High Hampton (complete) and make improvement to parking and landscaping (ongoing)
5. Clean up accounts, create new accounts, and polish balance sheet (in progress)
6. bring Invite, Welcome, and Connect to Good Shepherd – with a focus on young adults, youth and nursery.
7. Hiring a curate or second clergy or additional staff person – on hold until Fall 2019
8. Establish new scholarship fund and promote legacy and other giving to the fund – in progress
   i. The fund has been established in theory, but it is taking a little longer to actually establish the account

Vestry Nominations and process for October election (emailed)

Will open this weekend through August 11th.

We will need to review those nominations so that we can have the election at the Oct 1 parish meeting.
June 2019 Finance Reports

- Meeting with Reynolds Investment group, August 19, 1:30 pm
  - Vestry – please put this on your calendar so that you can attend.
- Halfway through calendar & fiscal year. Good news is that revenue YTD is above budgeted revenue and expenses YTD are below the budgeted expenses.
- Actual position that we are in is better than we had planned.

Approval of uses for Doug Smith funds— from 2016 bequest

- Approx. $75,000 left. Part used in kitchen, carpet, and deck. The rest was to be used for Outreach.
- Some used for ELL
- Bottom 6 things are the proposal for the remainder of the funds.
  - $3,250 to St. John’s Eye Hospital
  - $1,500 to Conkle-Rowe Scholarship for current scholarship needs
  - $15,000 to Pisgah Legal Services to help establish a Jackson Co. office
  - $11,500 to Blue Ridge School
  - $3,000 to Summit Charter School
  - $15,000 to HERE – very impressed with their mission. Looking for a home to turn into a shelter versus using hotels. These funds will help with administrative costs
- Doug Smith’s family will get a summary of how the funds are used
- The 3 years to spend the funds are up in August.
- APPROVED!

Stewardship Update

- Reviewed stewardship report
- We are ahead of where we were last year in dollars and number of pledges
- A net increase of $29 k in pledges
- We will follow up in the next few months with those that we have not heard from so that we can be confident in our fall budget

Mutual Ministry Review follow up: placeholders from Bill’s comments

New Business

- Auction and Bazaar update
  - Huge thanksgiving to God and everyone who helped. Over $181,000 for the whole year. $140,000 for Saturday. We will continue to collect revenue until Oct 31 and will still have expenses to take care of but look ahead of
  - Doreen is not doing auction, Sharon is just doing Barn so we will need to think about new leadership
- Pisgah Legal Update
  - See notes in Rector’s Vision Report and Doug Smith Funds
- Organist search and plan
  - Lost Chords will be playing in September and October. Will only take out one pew this year. Hope to have one substitute musician at the 9:15 service.
- Request from Lake Logan for help: adopting a cabin
They have initiated that conversation with us. From $12-70,000 in terms of renovating a cabin. Talking about how we can help with this project.

- Received 2 quotes for clearing land that we received from HH.
  - This land has dead trees, overgrown bushes that need to be taken out. We might relocate some of the rhododendron. Want to clear the space for where the meditation garden and/or columbarium would be so that the landscape architect can see clearly how to landscape it.
  - The quotes are based on number of days of work. Depending on what we want to keep we may not need them to be here as long as quoted. Quote also includes a separate price for grinding the stumps. Some of it is dead and needs to go so do we want to approve maybe 2 days instead of 4 days just to get rid of what is dead.
  - Want to mark what trees need to be saved and have the companies come back out and revise the quote with the landscape architect’s input also.
  - One of the considerations in keeping the trees is the effect that sap from the trees has on the new sculpture. This will affect where the sculpture is ultimately located.

- Table discussion for 30 days. Have both landscape architects come and look at area and meet with vestry and then have dead brush removed. APPROVED

- Back deck
  - David Young reports that wood deck has shrunk more than expected. David is meeting with the supplier next week to review it. Want to see if they will provide financial compensation for the shrinkage. We won’t be able to rebuild it but we don’t want to have to pay full price for a product that did not perform as expected.

- Cashiers Valley Preschool
  - They are progressing very nicely in making renovations for a toddler room for 9 new toddler students coming in the fall. 10 in the regular nursery and they can only go to 12 so they are almost full. They take age 1-5. They are still looking for a director.

- Church insurance
  - Renewal is in October. FC wanted to know who was monitoring the insurance coverage. David looked into it and will talk to the FC to make sure that the coverage is sufficient.

Old Business

- A/V Training and AED/fire extinguisher orientation
  - Glenville/Cashiers Rescue Squad came out and demonstrated how to use the AED machine. We will be scheduling a day for them to come out and do a CPR course.

- Safeguarding God’s People/Children update and Dismantling Racism update – For July
  - Ellen will email a report with the update
Dates to Remember –
- Meeting with Reynolds Investment group, August 19, 1:30 pm
- Next Vestry: August 21, 3 pm

Future Meetings and devotionals

| August 21 – Martie Kingree | September 18 – Nora Jones | October 23 – Ralph Greene | November 20 – Ray Daniel | December 18 – Patch Foster |

There being no additional business the meeting ended with prayer at 5:00.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Albright, Clerk