

Grace Episcopal Church
7 E. Maple Avenue
Merchantville, NJ 08109

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting December 8, 2009

Members Present: Mother Joan Watson Laurie Morgan
 Florence Collins John Brouse
 Joan Atkinson Kelly Sneddon
 Bette Butler Dave Fisher
 Phyllis Mroz Dave Martin, Sr.
 Chris Costa

Member Not Present: Jennifer Short

The Vestry welcomes Marge Conti, Treasurer

The meeting began with opening prayer and scripture at 7 PM.

Mother Joan Watson began the meeting with a description of correspondence with attorneys representing Jottan, Inc., roofers, and their demand for payment. Dave Fisher has drafted a response letter. Mother Joan Watson and Dave Fisher will meet with Jottan to discuss the issues. We propose paying them \$53,625 immediately. This represents 75% of the total of \$71,000. This payment is contingent upon correction of the deficiencies discovered upon inspection (and agreed upon in the original contract) and is limited to two (2) weeks after payment. We will then do an infra red photo scan to check for trapped moisture and advise Jottan accordingly. There was unanimous approval for this proposal. Marge Conti, Treasurer, will have the check available on December 10, 2009.

Mother Joan Watson also discussed Grace Church's Fair Share pledge to the Diocese of New Jersey. That fair share is determined to be \$41, 924. We as a parish have given a total of \$6,000 toward that payment for the past three (3) years. Laurie Morgan motioned that we increase our pledge to \$8,000 and Joan Atkinson seconded the motion. A vote was taken with Dave Fisher and Chris Costa voting no and all others voting yes.

Stewardship

Marian Wissman has agreed to be our Parish Leader. Father Don Muller of St. Peter's, Medford, Guest Leader will come to us and speak to the entire congregation concerning this topic.

Work has begun on the parish list. The list is organized as: 1) active members, 2) Questions – where are they; do they still consider themselves to be members, and 3) People who have gone (and who will be deleted from the rolls).

Restoration Status

Mother Joan Watson reports that the kitchen is being put back together. New grounded outlets were installed. Thermostats have been replaced and now have covers so that no one other than those approved to do so can change the time and temperature settings.

Previous Vestry Minutes

The minutes for October 19, 2009 were distributed. Dave Fisher motioned and John Brouse seconded his motion that they be accepted. There was unanimous approval.

The minutes for November 10, 2009 (graciously taken by Junior Warden Joan Atkinson in my absence) were distributed. Chris Costa motioned and John Brouse seconded his motion that they be accepted. There was unanimous approval.

FYI- Once the minutes of a particular month have been approved by the Vestry, I send them in PDF format to our webmaster, Kep Short who kindly posts them to the Grace Church website.

Senior Warden's Report

A Financial Audit will be performed during the first week of January, 2010. The cost for such an audit ranges between four and six thousand dollars. (\$4,000-\$6,000.)

The money needed to submit to Jottan Roofing, Inc. (\$53,625) will come from the TD account. This action, however, will leave the TD account with a balance under one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.). We will investigate how we will manage the balance of the account so that we achieve maximum return on our deposit.

We will meet with the candidates for the position of Priest in Charge on December 11 with a vote scheduled for December 16.

Junior Warden's Report

The two hundred fifty dollar (\$250.) contract with Petro is working out very well.

The dead tree will be removed by Weldon's Tree Service on December 11. The cost of this removal is five hundred seventy five dollars (\$575.).

Treasurer's Report

There are three (3) payrolls in the month of December. The insurance bill is expected soon.

Chris Costa motioned and John Brouse seconded his motion that the report be accepted. There was unanimous approval.

Committees

Welcoming Committee reports that we are seeing one-two (1-2) new people each week.

Donations to the Church by the operation of the Thrift Shop are up by over three thousand (\$3,000) from last year.

Laurie Morgan motioned and Dave Fisher seconded her motion that the meeting be adjourned. There was unanimous agreement.

Respectfully submitted,

Florence Collins
Clerk of the Vestry
Grace Church