

Vestry Meeting - Wednesday - March 20, 2024

Present: Gwen A., Shawn, Richard, Rick, Sylvia, Gwendolyn W., Ed, Wes and John Soard

- A. Many prayer requests and thanksgivings were mentioned, John prayed.
- B. Learning: Pages 5-8 from Practitioner's Guide to Governance as Leadership - Generative Work - Topics of discussion: slight changes in phrasing a question can change the outcome of the answers, "words matter", questioning the "original frame" can cause pushback, remove emotional ties and reevaluate the premise, it is easy to start problem solving before we have asked the right questions, be open to change, What is our story? Our identity? Tell your story the way you choose. Create the story, present the story. Everyone perceives the same event differently. We need to gather in community to talk and get things out in the open. People want to be heard, to tell their story, to be understood. People have a "frame". Rick mentioned the book - Six Thinking Hat as a good resource. Everyone's approach is valuable, people have diverse talents. The chart on Trustee Engagement was highlighted. Quadrant II is the ideal scenario where all collaborate together. Decide what to decide is very important.
- D. Approve Consent Agenda - great curate interview and report by John - Gwen makes the motion to approve the consent agenda, Ed seconds - aye - the consent agenda is approved.
- C. Strategic think and planning: A bit of a tutorial was given by John on how to add the survey answers to Planning Center. Please get your notes in before the next two weeks so John can compile the survey answers and make a report.
- E. Endowment Policies: Richard posted the 4 documents for review on Teams. The gift acceptance policy was discussed. The committee members are Richard, Walter, Dana and Don. Discussion on 2 funds - property and outreach. These two categories cover just about everything. These are sub-funds of the main endowment fund. The proposal was made to continue to review the documents and think them through until the next meeting. Managing previously gifted stocks was discussed. Promoting the endowment fund will be the next step, possible in the next six months.
- F. New Matters: Volunteer hours/service hours. Will we track the hours? What is the purpose for doing so? The stewardship committee will be asking for a pledge for "time", which goes along with "talent" and "treasure". Much discussion on how or why to track these hours ensued. Many pros and cons were mentioned, would the hours reported be anonymous? Would service hours offered anywhere count? How would we keep up with it? What you measure is what is important to you. The canon states that to be in good standing we are to be serving. Could the reporting of service hours make people more aware of all that is happening with Holy Comforter? How do we let people know what we are doing? We'll discuss this more next month. (2) Wes will get help from the members of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew following their Saturday meetings with light work around the property.

Items for next month - The next chapter in Practitioner's Guide to Governance. Add your survey answers to Planning Center in the next two weeks. John will make the report. Continue to review the Endowment Policies for next month. The next meeting is April 17, 2024

The meeting was adjourned. Submitted by: Becky Palmer, clerk