

MINUTES FOR MISSION COMMITTEE MEETING MARCH 14, 2021

In attendance: Sheila Williams, Lillian Knott, Darlene Watson, Gail Cecchini, Kevin Sangster, Regina Listman, Carole Marella, Denise King, Al King, Margaret McCafferty and Pat Schaffer.
Visitor: Andy Listman.

The meeting began at 11:01 with prayer, led by Denise King.

Minutes: Corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Page 3, Outreach Community Ministry \$76.76 given to GIFT should have read: \$76.76 was left over from 2020. \$260.00 was collected by Special Offering for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Diocesan Assessment was \$6, 541.00 but Mission Committee voted to keep that amount to \$6,000.00, or \$500.00 per month.

Page 4 – “We were behind \$1,670.81 in collections for January 2021.”

Page 1 – Interest income from the DIT was \$1,003.29. In January income was \$22,000.00. It should have read \$10,958.11.

Interest from TD Bank was \$.46 on Capital Fund account and \$1.00 on the Savings.

Should read:

\$5,000.00 from Checking Account, not Savings Account.

Page 4 of Minutes. Sunday School. Bruce Cecchini will not be teaching Sunday School, but is willing to do a Bible Study.

A Motion to accept the corrected Minutes was moved by Gail Cecchini and seconded by Regina Listman. All were in favor and Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: There were no questions of Gail. Kevin encouraged us to shop on Amazon Smile as there is no cost to use this service. A question was asked if we are saving money using Russ rather than George Makin as Sexton. We paid \$555.00 for snow removal in February of this year and in February and March of 2019 we paid \$932.97 to the landscaping company.

Summary: Kevin stated that some parishioners are not keeping up with their pledges. Denise will send out a diplomatic letter reminding those who pledge to try and get their money in on a timely basis as it can throw off the Budget, and if there is an income problem, just let the Treasurer be aware of it.

\$5,000.00 was sent to our DIT account, and 74.471 shares at \$67.14 each were purchased, reflected as of March of this year.

A Motion was made by Darlene to accept the Treasurer's Report and was seconded by Pat Schaffer. All were in favor and the Motion passed.

Senior Warden's Report: Kevin is actively looking for a long-term priest. He might have a candidate by May or June.

Bishop Stokes is working to get us to begin talks with the Lutheran Church for some type of collaboration or affiliation. Because we are not of the same faith as the Lutherans, a merger between us and the Lutherans is not likely. We may be able to share the Lutheran minister.

Holy Family has an agreement with St. Mary's Haddon Heights and are sharing a priest.

Scholarship – Kevin has reached out to the Smith family but has had no response yet, but he will follow up with them.

Junior Warden's Report: We will be getting the church ready for Easter this Saturday but Al needs two or three helpers to place tape on the pews and put up signs and place the sanitizers in pews and remove the books from the pews. Al thanked Regina for donating the Hand Sanitizer standing station, which was given in memory of her sister, Peggy Hohing.

There were no lights at the new sign and Brandon Watson was contacted to get information on installing lights, but it is too much work so Brandon recommended Solar Lights. Brandon purchased two solar lights and placed on either side of the sign.

The church has received the dog signs.

The Fire Inspector has not returned to re-inspect the premises, but all the issues have been resolved and we should pass the inspection when he returns.

The cameras on the security system are not working properly. A Fidelity Alarm technician came out to check and said we have the older Analog system. The new models are Digital. He will check his warehouse to see if he can find the parts to repair our system.

Office Manager's Report: There were no questions of Margaret.

Convention: Pat Schaffer gave a short overview of her impressions. Reparations were discussed for Black people, Justice and Peace, marching, and putting up money for these causes to move the country forward. There was a lecture on what some churches did during Lent. She has been praying and watching Bishop Stokes on You Tube and Women's History this week.

Elections were blessedly done quickly.

One church closed in North Jersey

People who had died were remembered and it was done beautifully.

Outreach Committee: Pat Schaffer would like to send cards for Easter to the two Assisted Living communities in Berlin. Regina Listman suggested Vista Print is very reasonably priced for same. Pat would like to know how much her budget can be to do this. She was told to send her request to the Treasurer.

There is a children's care center with 190 children in the vicinity, these children will be there for life as their conditions are extremely severe and require hospital-type care.

The Fountains will be contacted to see if any of the residents would like to join our service on Zoom.

Change for Change will be a program in church where parishioners with spare change will be encouraged to drop same in a bucket which will be placed in the aisle.

Tomorrow, the 15th of March marks the 1st anniversary of the church being closed for Covid-19.

It was suggested that we do something to thank our local First Responders, EMT's, the fire company and the police for all their efforts during the Covid-19 shutdown. Further discussion came up with gift cards from Scotto's Pizza, as the volunteers are not always at their stations. Pat Schaffer will contact Scotto's to see if they can give us a discount and work with us. A question arose as to whether we should involve both Berlin and West Berlin in this endeavor. It was decided to take care of Berlin at this time and possibly do the same for West Berlin in the future. Margaret was asked to do a "thank you letter" which would be included with each gift card and Pat will make up a flyer to be included.

Fundraising: Gail applied to the State to renew our gambling license, but the State screwed up and we still have not received same. An email was sent to the State and a check for \$100.00. Our By-laws have changed so the information must go up the chain of command.

Raffle: A template has been created for the raffle tickets and four tickets per page will fit and the information on same will be legible.

A suggestion was made that we canvas the local businesses for donations for the Raffle, but it was pointed out that we already get local businesses to donate to the Bag Bingo. Kevin suggested that a list of businesses that do donate be made and given to Darlene so that the same places are not being asked to donate twice.

Since the license has been delayed quite some time, we may have to adjust the prizes downward as our selling time has been reduced by almost three months.

Re-opening Committee: Al King reported that we are ready to open safely. Registration must be made for entry on Easter Sunday and following Sundays.

Regina would like to know the number of children who will be attending as she would like to purchase a small gift i.e., coloring books, as the Easter Egg Hunt will not be held this year.

The Bishop advises that masks, social distancing, and hand sanitizer will still be required at churches that will be or are open. The Diocese is taking a very cautious approach to reopening due to liability concerns. It is not likely that our insurance company will cover risks associated with COVID-19, so we have to ensure we maintain some standards to guard against any potential claim of negligence.

Fr. Ryan will be with us on April 4, 18 and May 2. We will need to find another supply priest or deacon for April 11 and 25th. Kevin will check with Fr. Wectnick or Deacon Fran.

Correspondence: Fr. Droste is doing a seminar “Growing Churches” which will be a 1 ¼ hour training session via Zoom. He wants us to “think Missionary.” The seminar can be done in one session or individually. Lillian, Gail, Darlene, Regina, and Marg would be interested.

Kevin signed the church up for NAEIR a non-profit company that gives away office supplies for a nominal fee or free of charge. This service could be used for the Backpacks we donate or for our own office needs.

Old Business: The Auditor has clients ahead of us, but we are ready to proceed when she is available. Gail and Margaret are getting paperwork together for her. Jim Krug and Tammy Ruggerio will be working with the Auditor.

ECW: Regina is composing a flyer to give out on Easter Sunday. There are people at the Diocese who can help with any questions. Also, reach out to Ms. Levin who is involved in the ECW for guidance.

Prayer Chain: Denise has reached out to all but two people have been contacted.

[REDACTED]

New Business: Re: our organ, which Fr. Van Sant asked if we would be willing to sell to their church. It was suggested that we come in high for a price, as we can always negotiate the price down, but cannot go up on the price. It should be sold with the understanding that it is “As Is” and that his church will pay for the shipping of same. Al will get someone to come in and give us the value of the organ.

A Motion was made by Pat Schaffer and seconded by Regina Listman to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor and the Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 1:06 p.m. with prayer led by Denise King.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret McCafferty, Secretary

Mission Committee