

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church Bemidji, MN
Minutes of Bishop's Committee Meeting
August 21, 2012

Members present: Carol Carpenter, Sr. Warden; Bob Montebello, Jr. Warden;
Gretchen Hazard; Kathy Schmit; Tom Jessen, Shirley Nelson.
TM liaison, Jo Jordan (*sub for Charlie Champlin*)

Absent: Ray Waukazo. Diane Hull, treasurer

Guests: Tandy Bowman and Kathy Perry from Servant Hearts

Carol Carpenter offered the opening prayer.

Kathy Perry gave a review of activities to educate people on GLBTQ issues that will be held on Sept. 16-18. St. Bart's has contributed \$150 toward renting a film for the project. Tuesday, September 18 the film will be shown at St. Bart's. In addition to housing the event St. Bart's will provide coffee and cookies.

Minutes of the July meeting were approved as distributed.

Shirley Nelson reported on notes from the joint TM/BC meeting held in July. Karen Olson from The Episcopal Church in Minnesota (ECMN) facilitated the meeting. Notes from the meeting are somewhere in cyber space and when they land they will be distributed. No action was taken on the report.

Shirley Nelson has resigned as clerk of the BC. Her resignation was accepted with thanks to Shirley. A new clerk is needed. No one volunteered to be clerk, and Kathy Schmit was asked by the chair to assume the position. Kathy does not take minutes with paper and pencil and will bring her computer to the next meeting and take minutes. Jo Jordan volunteered to take minutes for this meeting long hand and type them and send them to Kathy. The duties of the clerk will be rotated.

Diane Hull, treasurer, was absent. She provided a treasurer's report for the committee. It was noted, by Diane that a new copier will be needed in the near future and suggests that a new copier be budgeted for in the next budget. Paper expenses are increasing. Ways to reduce the amount of copying done were discussed. Tom asked why there is two pension contributions listed. No one knew and Diane will be asked that question. The treasurer's report was received. The committee noted that it was difficult to understand the information since Diane was not at the meeting.

Jo Jordan reported that TM has changed their meeting format. The team will meet for four hours once a month on Saturdays for study. A meeting to discuss nuts and bolts will be held mid way between the monthly Saturday meetings. The mid way meeting will discuss "nuts and bolts" and last no more than two hours. It will be held on a weekday. The Team has decided to discontinue using the Life Cycles materials for study. They will be using a text "Introduction to Theology" for study.

Bob Montebello gave the Jr. Warden's report. The company that cleaned up the trees from the recent storm did a very good job. The roof is still leaking and it has been very difficult to contact the roofers who installed the roof. It is unlikely that no insurance will cover the tree removal or the slight damage to the roof from a falling tree. The landscaping is basically done and the ants are beginning to build nests and hills in the sand between the pavers. NO SALT should be used on the pavers. No decision was made as to how to handle the ant problem. The painting of the undercroft and the planting of flowers will be discussed at the next BC meeting. Expert advice will be sought.

Carol Carpenter gave the Sr. Warden's report. There have been major problems with the installation of the stained glass window in the office. It will not be ready for the centennial celebration. Although Robert the clear glass installer and Pat the stain glass installer assured Carol that they would talk to each other and work out the needs for installation they did not and that caused the problems. The bids from Robert and Pat will not increase and the problems can be corrected. However, Mr. Hooker, the framer has asked that he be paid \$150 additional over the cost from installing the window two years ago. With

the additional framing work necessary his cost might even increase more. The three Internet domain addresses will be purchased for another year.

Ila Olson's family wants to fund a project in honor of Ila. Their donation of \$4,000 will be used to install stained glass in the two loft windows and the kitchen window. The new green altar hangings and vestments arrived. The Bishop will bless them during the centennial celebration. They were purchased with funds donated to the memorial fund in Don Anderson's memory. ECW has donated \$1,000 to help reduce the deficit.

Old business. The preparations for the centennial celebration continue. The tents and the sandwiches have been ordered. Balloons will be purchased. As part of the discussion of centennial celebration the need for a bell ringer was addressed. The time and method of ringing and who will ring the bell has been referred to the Team for discussion and decision.

Tom Jessen moved/second that St. Bartholomew's annual contribution to Churches United be \$100. Motion carried without opposition. Churches United requested an additional \$155 annual contribution to help with heating expenses.

Tom Jessen moved/second that the request for additional funds for Churches United be tabled until the Team had an opportunity to discuss the matter and to decided if there are discretionary funds available to make the \$155 contribution. Motion carried without opposition.

Gretchen Pickeral requested \$50 to help with her expenses to attend the "Healing of Memories" workshop. Shirley Nelson moved/second that Gretchen be given the \$50. Motion carried without opposition.

A discussion of Episcopal Community Services (ECS) was postponed until the September meeting.

Lay employee benefits as required by the 2012 General Convention were discussed. It appears that St. Bartholomew's is already in compliance with the requirements. The Sr. Warden left the extensive material covering the ruling was left for the BC members to read at their leisure.

The riding lawn mower has been repaired and is working well. Bob Montebello paid for the repairs with his own funds.

The next meeting is Tuesday, September 11 at 6:00.

Jo Jordan closed the meeting with a Celtic blessing prayer.

The chair adjourned meeting at 8:12.

Respectfully submitted,
Jo Jordan, clerk pro tem