

St. John's Vestry Minutes
Tuesday, September 18, 2007
7:00pm-9:00pm – Library

Present: Mariann Budde, Craig Gudorf, Shelly Gill Murray (clerk), Kay Kramer, Dan Sutton, Susan Tapp, Michelle Dibblee, Bruce Mair, John Willoughby, Jan Olfe, Gretchen Van Scoy, Emily Peterson, Rex Gaskill

Absent: Ivy Booth, Brigitte Parenteau

Next Vestry Meeting: October 12-13, 2007

Emily Peterson called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm. Michelle Dibblee led the devotions after which the following action items occurred:

Action items

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the August 21, 2007 meeting minutes with amendments and approve the September agenda with amendments.

Finance Report

Bruce Mair led the discussion stating total pledged contributions in August were about \$2,000 under budget. The total income in August was about \$1,200 under budget. Year to date, the total income is about \$4,900 over budget and the overall net income for the year was about \$20,600 favorable to budget.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the August 2007 financial report.

Discussion Items

Columbarium Issue

Mariann led this discussion by stating one of the niches in the columbarium has an incorrect date of death. The issue is the high cost of correcting an error because the dates are engraved in marble that comes from Italy. To explain what is necessary to make a change, the columbarium coordinator, Jymie Anderson submitted a letter of explanation that is attached to these minutes as well as some e-mails related thereto. Due to the high cost of replacement tiles, it is very important that all future names and dates be scrutinized for error before ordering the marble engraving. In this case, the error was on a form filled in by the family so the cost will not be borne by St. John's.

Nominating Update

Mariann stated she had an update meeting with the Nominating Committee regarding the Justice and Peace commission applications. The nominating committee has been receiving applications without accompanying forms because many of the candidates are discerning in other ways that negate the need for formal paperwork. Brian Wright, the nominating chair stated he felt receiving completed paper work was not as important as knowing that the applicant has fully discerned what a position on the commission entails.

On a different topic, Mariann stated she would like to have a discussion about whether it would be appropriate to amend the bylaws to state that the Jr. Warden position should be a one-year term that automatically converts into the Sr. warden position for the second year of the two-year term. She felt that the idea was a good one given the positions are interrelated and not as bifurcated in responsibilities as they used to be. The discussion revolved around whether some applicants for Jr. Warden would decline because they have no interest in becoming Sr. warden. Some felt it was a natural transition that allowed for continuity. While no decision was made about what to do, Mariann noted the bylaws do not provide for the amendment process so more research was required before any decision could be made.

In reach Progress

Michelle Diblee gave an update saying there are 21 people signed up to visit with folks in the congregation. These “visitors” will be offered three dates to attend training. She also passed around a list of those parishioners who would be contacted.

Stewardship Update

John Willoughby stated the McClures will host the brunch on November 18, Consecration Sunday. The caterer has been retained and the speaker for the event will be a lay leader from Trinity church. In exchange Mariann will speak at Trinity. Shelly Murray agreed to host the dinner on Sunday November 11 for those on the stewardship committee. At the end of that dinner, John will ask vestry members to take a list of 10 families to call to confirm whether they will attend the brunch. The members of the stewardship committee will be meeting soon to finalize details.

Children’s Ministry Update

Craig Gudorf began the discussion by asking Gretchen Van Scoy if she felt she was getting enough support during this very busy time in children’s ministry. She stated she had a difficult time getting people to respond to her calls and was still in need of several teachers to completely satisfy her need for approximately 30 teachers. She was adamant the recruitment approach must not send the message of desperation. After some discussion, Craig and Emily agreed to craft a statement to the congregation on Sunday to help find more teachers.

Sexton Search Process

Jan Olfe said that she and some others interviewed a candidate for the Sexton position and felt he was very qualified. Unfortunately, after many follow-up calls to the candidate, he has not responded and Jan feels that perhaps he is not interested in the position after all and they may have to start interviewing other candidates.

Music Ministries Update

Craig Gudorf was very enthusiastic about St. Johns’ new hire for music ministries. He said Chad Smith and his family are in the process of moving to Minnesota and his first Sunday in church will be Sunday, October 21. Mariann added that with the help of

Michael Morrow, the personnel committee was shopping for a non-contributory health insurance policy for the Smith family.

Retreat

Emily reminded everyone the retreat is set for October 12-13. The cost is \$25 per person and all amenities will be provided except sleeping bags, pillows and towels. We will also have to bring and prepare our own food. Emily suggested the vestry make this a “non-planning” retreat. In preparation for retreat, Mariann asked each vestry member to submit one spiritual question to ponder for that weekend.

Bishop’s Committee on Mission Strategy

Mariann gave a quick update stating the Commission’s report has been approved by Diocesan Council and will be presented to Diocesan Convention in October. She will forward a copy of the report to each vestry member to read.

Devotions

Kay Kramer agreed to take prepare the devotions for the November vestry meeting.

After a prayer, the meeting was called to a close at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelly Gill Murray
Clerk of the Vestry