

St. Luke's Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting Thursday, May 29, 2008

Present: Phoebe Davoli, Alva Stuard, John McKenzie,
Father Koehler, Brookie Allphin-Smith, Allen Bodron, Ian Hipwell, David
Stockinger

Absent: Jan Cassidy, Laura Thomas, Mary Saporito,
Larry White, Laura East and Deacon Wiggins

Father Koehler:

The meeting was opened with a prayer.

The minutes from the April 24, 2008 vestry meeting were unanimously accepted.

Carnival Results – Chuck Davoli gave a report on the Carnival.

Estimated profit \$14,600 shared 50/50 with school

Thank you event has been planned for key volunteers and sponsors

Recommended that vestry allow school to use their portion toward school
projects instead of the debt repayment

Carnival 2009

2009 Event scheduled for April 24-26

Recommend:

Joint venture between vestry and school board (no longer a Men's Club project)

Re-negotiate contract with Gold Star Amusements

Expand scope to include Spring Arts & Crafts

Add fund raising activities (games, silent auction etc)

All recommendations were unanimously approved by the vestry.

Bible School

Scheduled for June 2-5. This year the bible school will be held in the evening.

Currently 40-50 children are signed up.

Capital Funds Exploration

The purpose is gain a view of the complicated situation of raising capital funds for church and school jointly. This effort is to explore the possible implementation of phase one of the master plan. Two institutional fund raising consulting firms are presenting to a combined church and school group – RSI and Episcopal Church Foundation.

Suit filed related to Williams-Scotsman

Attorney Allen Graves has filed suit in local district court for \$75,000 on behalf of St. Luke's against Williams-Scotsman. The suit concerns the temporary buildings provided by Williams-Scotsman.

Gleason Family – The Gleason family is in the process of moving into the Tara house.

Assistant Clerk – The vestry approved that Phoebe Davoli be designated assistant clerk for the purposes of signing Merrill Lynch documents.

Honduras Youth Mission – Terry and Fr. Koehler will be leaving for Honduras on June 9. The Youth Mission will join them from June 11 through 18.

Senior Warden – Alva Stuard

A gift, in recognition of their work with the Diocesan Convention, has been purchased for Margaret and Martin Schott.

New School Board members have been approved by vestry vote.

On June 8 a welcoming party for the Gleason family will be held. Gift Cards for the Gleason family are encouraged.

School canopy damage (April 22) is in the insurance company's hands. Building roof damage (church and school) will be inspected by insurance adjusters on Monday, June 2.

Stewardship Committee – Ian Hipwell:

No Report.

Communications Committee – Brookie Allphin-Smith:

Brookie Allphin-Smith reported that she is looking at ways to coordinate Opportunity Sunday and Rally Day.

Parish Life Committee:

No breakfast the first Sunday of June due to the Gleason welcoming party. David is looking into Ken Rust providing background music for the Gleason party.

Facilities Committee:

No report.

Finance Committee:

Phoebe Davoli reported that as of the end of April, the operating account had a deficit balance of \$104,224, the capital revenue account had a surplus balance of \$89,637, and the restricted revenue account had a deficit of \$65,717.

A draw is due from the Foundation Funds in the amount of \$57K. A portion of this draw will offset the Operating deficit by \$19,000.

Budget 2008-2009. The budget and assumptions for 2008-2009 operating, capital and restricted funds was presented. The budget for each fund is in balance (without deficits or surpluses). The budget for each fund was unanimously approved by the vestry.

Resolutions – Three resolutions were presented and unanimously accepted by the vestry.

Resolution #1 concerns the Gleason housing allowance, and occupancy of the church owned house.

Resolution #2 concerns the Gleason moving expenses.

Resolutions#3 concerns the designated use of funds received from restitution by Fr. Saik.

Attachment No. 1 contains a full copy of each resolution.

Come What May:

No discussions.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Phoebe B. Davoli
Assistant Clerk

Attachment No. 1

Resolution #1

Whereas, Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code permits a minister of the gospel to exclude from gross income the rental value of a house furnished to him as part of his compensation, and a church-designated housing allowance paid to him as part of his compensation to the extent used for actual expenses incurred in maintaining the rectory; and

Whereas, the Reverend Edward C. Gleason, whose employment at Saint Luke's begins on June 1, 2008, is compensated by Saint Luke's Episcopal Church of Baton Rouge, Inc. exclusively for services as a minister of the Gospel; and

Whereas, Saint Luke's Episcopal Church of Baton Rouge provides Fr. Gleason with rent-free use of a church-owned house as compensation for services that he renders to the church in the exercise of his ministry; and

Whereas, as Fr. Gleason incurs expenses for living in church provided housing; therefore it is hereby

Resolved, that the annual compensation paid to Fr Gleason for the calendar year 2008 shall include \$6,000 hereby designated to be a housing allowance pursuant to Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code, and it is further

Resolved, that the designation of \$6,000 as a housing allowance shall apply to calendar year 2008 and all future years unless otherwise provided by the vestry, and it is further

Resolved, that as additional compensation to Fr Gleason for the calendar year 2008 and for all future years unless otherwise provided for by this vestry, Fr. Gleason shall be permitted to live in the church-owned house at 1266 Oakley Drive, Baton Rouge, and that no rent or other fee shall be payable by Fr. Gleason for such occupancy and use.

Adopted by the Vestry of Saint Luke's, and included in the minutes of its regular meeting, held May 29, 2008.

Resolution #2

Whereas the parish has experienced "extraordinary expenses" (a budget category used historically for non-recurring expenses related to the call of clergy), therefore it is

Resolved, that moving and transportation expenses related to bring Fr Gleason to Baton Rouge be paid from the operating funds, and offset with a transfer from Schwing income.

Resolution #3

Whereas The Rev'd Ernest W. Saik has repaid to Saint Luke's Church \$13, 143.01 spent on personal transactions from parish funds, and \$5, 580 to pay the costs of an audit associated with these transactions, for a total of \$18, 723.01; and

Whereas these funds have been held in a special account by Saint Luke's Church, therefore

Be it resolved, that \$5,580 of these funds be transferred to the operating fund of Saint Luke's Church for use in paying the appropriate audit expenses, and \$13,143.01 be designated to fund the clergy discretionary fund line item of the operating fund budget until the funds are fully utilized for this purpose, and it is further

Resolved, that the Rector, with the consent of the parish treasurer, may fund, from the designated fund in the previous paragraph, clergy discretionary funds to meet emergency or unforeseen demands on such funds as may be necessary in excess of the line item budget amount.