

ST. JOHN'S PARISH

VESTRY MINUTES

April 13, 2010

Present: Junior Warden Boyd Baker, Claudia Boyce, Senior Warden Perry Gervais, Tom Gopsill, Jerry Houston, Perry Jameson, Bubba Jenkins, Bill Leland, Adair McKoy, Libby Puckette, Bruce Saxman, and Ford Walpole. Also attending were Fr. Greg Snyder, Fr. Joe Gibbes, Treasurer John Blicht, Director of Faith Formation Walt Miller, and Recording Secretary Melanie Poston.

Fr. Greg Snyder opened the meeting with a meditation – “Who Is Called to Mission?”

The minutes from the March Vestry meeting were approved.

Proposed Fundraiser for Mission Trip to Ireland

Walt Miller, Director of Faith Formation, reported that the Bishop of Ireland asked Bishop Lawrence and the Diocese of South Carolina for help in building the youth program in Ireland. Walt asked for permission from the Vestry to hold a fundraiser to send youth from St. John's on a 12-day mission trip to Ireland.

Glebe Land Garden

Walt Miller made a suggestion of a possible use of the Glebe land that will benefit people on Johns and Wadmalaw Islands. He asked the Vestry to consider the feasibility of using the land for a community garden, where people from the Sea Islands could use small parcels of the land for planting vegetables.

Audio-Visual Feed to the Parish Life Building

Walt Miller reviewed the current equipment used to provide live feed from the Church to the Parish Life Building. The quality of the existing system is poor and trouble-ridden. Walt met with Fox Audio-Visual who proposed a new, high-definition digital camera as well as a wireless system. They believe those changes should solve the problems we are currently experiencing. Fox will provide an estimate on the cost of new equipment.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer John Blicht reported on the bank balance and reviewed the financial report for the month of March.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Changes in Publication of the Bridge

Tom Gopsill reminded the Vestry that his committee assumed many of the responsibilities of publishing the Bridge almost two years ago. He has a committee of good layout editors and good writers who are willing workers, and their efforts have relieved the church staff considerably. The recent change of publishing the Bridge bi-monthly and sending out weekly e-news letters has had mixed results.

Many members of the church do not get the information. Tom got a bid from Kinko's for printing and mailing the Bridge monthly for the price of \$292.19 per month. It costs the church approximately \$275 per month for the staff to do the same work. Boyd Baker made a motion to accept the bid from Kinko's to print and mail the Bridge for \$292.19 per month. Jerry Houston seconded the motion. The motion passed.

LaRoche Building Renovations

Boyd Baker reported that approximately \$7,000 has been spent so far on renovations for the LaRoche Building. The new bathroom has been completed and Creative Learning will be able to use the space. Fr. Joe Gibbes said he had informed Sarah Hocutt about the plans for the continuing renovations. Boyd thanked Bubba Jenkins for his help in cleaning out the upstairs of the LaRoche Building.

Alpha Course

Libby Puckette encouraged everyone to read the upcoming Bridge article about the recently completed Alpha Course. The Vestry thanked Libby for doing a good job in heading the spring Alpha Course.

Cemetery

Adair McKoy asked the Vestry for clarification and guidance on rules for burial in the St. John's Parish cemetery. He asked if members of Iglesia de San Juan are considered to be members of St. John's for purposes of burial in the cemetery. A request for a burial plot has been made by a member of St. John's who now attends Iglesia de San Juan. It was agreed that the request would be granted. The general feeling is that a policy needs to be developed for the Rules of the Cemetery.

NEW BUSINESS

New Curate

Fr. Greg Snyder announced that Dagnall Free has been hired as the new Curate for St. John's. Dagnall and his family will be in Charleston from April 20-29. A reception for the Frees will be held on Wednesday, April 21 from 6:00-7:30 pm. The Vestry is invited to meet Dagnall, his wife Sallie, and their children William and Emma.

It was suggested that Fr. Greg and the Wardens work on a compensation package for Dagnall. The proposed compensation package will be presented at the May Vestry meeting. Claudia Boyce made a motion that Senior Warden Perry Gervais, Junior Warden Boyd Baker, and Fr. Greg develop a compensation package to present to the Vestry in May. Tom Gopsill seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Fr. Greg said Dagnall will be ordained as a Deacon at Holy Cross, Sullivan's Island.

Missions and Outreach

Claudia Boyce reported that the Missions and Outreach committee are looking into creating a local mission in sync with Rural Missions, working in our own community. They are exploring the possibility of staying in the Parish Life Building

during this time, working during the day with Rural Missions on Johns and Wadmalaw Islands. Claudia asked the Vestry's approval to proceed with this plan. She noted there is an Outreach meeting tomorrow night, Wednesday, April 14. Claudia said Stephen Haynsworth, chairman of the Missions Board, sees this project as a possible prerequisite to overseas mission work.

Interim Priest

The first six months Dagnall is employed at St. John's as a Deacon, he will be unable to serve Eucharist or blessings of marriage. Fr. Greg has asked Fr. Charlie Walton to help at St. John's during that time. He proposed that a compensation package of \$6,000 to compensate Fr. Charlie during that time, as he will travel to Johns Island, spend nights here, and assist on Sundays. Bubba Jenkins made a motion to accept the contract as proposed. Adair McKoy seconded the motion. Perry Gervais made an addition to the motion that the \$6,000 will be moved from undesignated funds. Bubba and Adair agreed to the addition to add \$6,000 to the Supply Clergy budget. The motion passed.

Insurance Review

Our existing property insurance coverage is being reviewed.

VOTES ON PROPOSALS MADE BY FAITH FORMATION DIRECTOR

Fundraiser for Missions

St. John's will have six youth going to Ireland for mission work, as well as Rachel Snyder going to London as a missionary. Boyd Baker made a motion to approve fundraising for the mission trips. Bubba Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Libby Puckette noted that St. John's will have six youth (out of 14) who will be called upon to share their faith. She asked the Vestry to encourage the youth to step out and show their faith. She said the participation in this says a lot about the youth of St. John's and the leadership of Rob Schluter as Youth Minister.

Audio-Visual Feed to Parish Life Building

The Vestry will revisit this issue after a proposal is received from Fox.

Community Glebe Land Garden

Adair McKoy will do an analysis of the soil on the Glebe Land to see if it is suitable for farming. The Vestry will revisit this issue.

Rectory Property Upkeep

Junior Warden Boyd Baker reported that the riding mower for the rectory is no longer usable. B & G Lawn Care proposed to maintain the lawn of the rectory two times a month at the rate of \$200 per time. Boyd noted that a new mower will cost at least \$1,000. Perry Gervais made a motion to spend up to \$1,600 plus tax for a riding mower. Tom Gopsill seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Libby Puckette made a motion to set aside \$300-400 to cut grass when the Rector's schedule makes it difficult for him to mow himself. Claudia Boyce seconded the motion. The motion passed. This will be charged to General Maintenance.

Possible Ordination in July

Fr. Greg asked for prayers for Charles Jenkins as he goes before the Board of Examining Chaplains on Tuesday, April 27.

Senior Warden's Report

Senior Warden Perry Gervais reported that an employment contract, which had been discussed, is still being investigated.

Perry asked the Vestry to consider whether some of the undesignated funds may be used to assist the Diocese with budget shortfalls.

Junior Warden's Report

Junior Warden Boyd Baker reported that underbrush has been cleared along Maybank Highway.

Boyd said that Alex (Baker) is in Ephesus and asked the Vestry to pray for Alex as he prepares to go to China as a missionary. Boyd discussed the difficulty of serving there as a missionary while not being openly Christian.

Other Business

Claudia Boyce read a prayer request from Missions Board Chairman Stephen Haynsworth. Stephen attended the New Wineskins Global Conference where they learned about the possibility of building a Diocese in Northern Uganda, and bringing 100,000-300,000 to Christ. The Global Missions Board is working on a proposal to bring to the Vestry to help in this mission.

Associate Rector's Report

Fr. Joe Gibbes reported on the Men's and King's Hikes, which will have 60 men from five churches participating. The hike is April 22-25.

Rector's Report

Fr. Greg Snyder distributed to the Vestry a statement on South Carolina by the Anglican Communion Institute. He said that Bishop Lawrence is preparing to leave for the Global South Meeting in Singapore. Fr. Greg asked the Vestry to pray for Bishop Lawrence and this meeting.

Fr. Greg distributed the Summer 2010 Grace Chapel schedule.

Fr. Greg told the Vestry that Bishop Gakumba said the highlight of his trip was meeting the people of St. John's and Fr. Greg, and it is very clear that the people of St. John's love the Lord.

Fr. Greg reported on the New Wineskins Global Missions Conference. Forty people attended from the Diocese of South Carolina; nine of those were from St. John's. Fr. Greg noted that St. John's had the largest group attending.

Fr. Greg reminded the Vestry that May 2nd is Confirmation Sunday and the schedule will be as follows:

8:00 am Choral Eucharist, Bishop Lawrence preaching
9:15 am Breakfast with the Bishop
10:30 am Joint Service in the Parish Life Building – Confirmation

He also reminded the Vestry that May 23rd is Fr. Joe's last Sunday at St. John's, and the 10:30 service will be a joint service of the 10:22 and 10:30 services, held in the Church. A reception will follow the 10:30 service.

Episcopal Forum

Adair McKoy reported on the Episcopal Forum that was held on Johns Island on April 11th. Adair asked that the Vestry pray for the seminaries.

Fr. Joe Gibbes closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Melanie Poston
Recording Secretary