

ST. JOHN'S PARISH
VESTRY MINUTES
APRIL 21, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Fr. Greg Snyder. Vestry members in attendance were: Junior Warden Boyd Baker, Dannie Barteet, Claudia Boyce, Neal Edgerton, Senior Warden Perry Gervais, Stephen Haynsworth, Jerry Houston, Perry Jameson, Bubba Jenkins, Adair McKoy, and Libby Puckette. Others attending were The Rev. Dr. Greg Snyder, The Rev. Joe Gibbes, Treasurer John Blich, Recording Secretary Melanie Poston, Sarah Hocutt, and Kerry Stuhr.

Fr. Greg opened with prayer and meditation. Vestry members shared prayer concerns and thanksgivings.

The Vestry continued with the reading of the vision statement.

Minutes

Dannie Barteet made a motion to accept the minutes from the March meeting. Stephen seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Creative Learning Preschool Contract Renewal

Sarah Hocutt, director of the Creative Learning Preschool, discussed the future of the preschool at St. John's. She feels the next step for the preschool is to expand the program to include a 4-5-year-old class. She would like to use the yellow classroom in the Parish Life Building. Kerry Stuhr would teach the new class. Kerry talked about her background in special education and early childhood development. She indicated her desire to bring Christianity to children. Her classroom would be center-based for up to 12 children. Sarah hopes the new class could have a start date of June 8.

The Vestry discussed aspects of the proposal, including heating and cooling costs, storage, and the amount of rent for the space. Stephen Haynsworth made a motion to accept in principle the preschool's proposal to use one room of the Parish Life Building, price to be determined later. Dannie Barteet seconded the motion. After more discussion, Boyd moved to table the motion. Concerns are the future and size of the program, where does the church want to go, and where does the preschool want to go with this program. A task force was formed to explore the matter further. Members of the task force are: Dannie Barteet, Billy Crowther, Adair McKoy, and Walt Miller.

Capers Christian Preparatory School Task Force

Neal Edgerton reported that the committee visited the school last week. He said the school is struggling financially monthly. Claudia Boyce reported that an individual who met Dr. Brown and visited the school made a public relations plan for the school. The plan's objective is to raise sustainable funding for the school. The individual will present the plan at the school's board meeting on April 24. Claudia made a motion to give the school \$4,000 (\$2,000 each for April and May) to assist with their rent. This money will come from the \$50,000 gift given to the church in December to help people on Johns and Wadmalaw Islands. The check will be written directly to the school's landlord. Dannie Barteet seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Gift to Church

Fr. Greg Snyder informed the Vestry that a very generous donation was made to the church. The donors wish to remain anonymous and requested that \$50,000 should be used in a manner to be determined by the Vestry.

Alpha Course Task Force

The Task Force is interested in a collaboration with other Episcopal churches, through JUMP (Johns and Wadmalaw Islands United Ministry Partners). The Alpha Course is designed for people who really know little about Christianity. The task force feels a meeting with leaders of other churches is needed to get them involved, and will put together a plan of action before the May Vestry meeting.

Glebe Land Use Task Force

The task force has met since the March Vestry meeting. Jerry Houston reported that considering the extensive permitting process and zoning, it is not financially feasible to use a small portion of the property. The committee recommendation is use of the Glebe Land should be tabled until it is known what changes will be made with Main Road. Dannie Barteet made a motion to remove the Glebe Land from the Vestry Agenda. Perry Jameson seconded the motion. The motion passed. The timber will continue to be harvested at appropriate times. Perry Gervais will contact Dr. Charlie Davis and let him know of the decision.

Colonnade Preliminary Construction Plans

Boyd Baker reported an engineering firm believes the cost of the colonnade can be lessened using existing foundations for piers.

Child Protection Policy Review

Review of the Child Protection Policy was tabled until May.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Iglesia de San Juan

Fr. Greg and the Reverend Mercedes Julian will meet with the Bishop.

275th Anniversary

On May 17, 2009, there will be a celebration of St. John's 275th anniversary. Bishop Mark Lawrence will preach at the 8:00 and 10:30 services. The 8:00 service will include music. At 9:00 am there will be an open forum with the Bishop in the Parish Life Building. At 10:30 there will be a celebration and confirmation. This service will be combined with the 10:22 service. It will be held in the church, with overflow in the Parish Life Building. Following the 10:30 service will be a reception and luncheon.

Silent Auction

The Silent Auction to benefit the mission trip to the Dominican Republic will be held on Friday, April 24, 2009. Stephen reported that up to 24 people are going to the Dominican Republic. Fr. Greg reported that St. John's has been faithful in giving to La Encarnacion. Bishop Skilton will dedicate the church while the St. John's mission group is there.

Placement of Treasurer's Report

Neal Edgerton suggested reviewing the Treasurer's Report earlier in Vestry meetings. He made a motion that the Treasurer's Report be presented after the minutes. Boyd Baker seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Senior Warden's Report

Perry Gervais had nothing new to report at this time.

Junior Warden's Report

Boyd Baker reported that we had a good clean-up on April 4th. Grace Chapel has been power washed and Boyd got a quote of \$8400 for painting Grace Chapel. Neal Edgerton made a motion to accept the bid. Claudia Boyce seconded the motion. The motion passed. Neal also extended thanks on behalf of the Grace Chapel Committee to Bubba Jenkins for his work at Grace.

Associate Rector's Report

Fr. Joe Gibbes reported on Epic weekend, saying it was a great weekend, and that 69 teens attended.

He also reported that the Dave Ramsey Financial Peace class ended on April 4th. Joe said the group paid off over \$94,000 and saved over \$76,000. Four in the group became debt free.

Joe reported on the Men's Hike, stating it was the most difficult to date, but the men had a super time together and the Lord was with them. One member of the group was baptized on the trip.

Rector's Report

Fr. Greg distributed three handouts that the Vestry may enjoy reading.

He reported that there were 84 in attendance at Grace Chapel for the Easter Vigil and Sunrise service. St. John's had 530 people attend on Easter. 174 people came to Grace Chapel for Evening Prayer and the egg hunt.

Fr. Greg asked the Vestry to take note of the important dates listed on the agenda.

Treasurer's Report

John Blich reviewed the March financial report. John reported that the members of the Investment Committee are Ron Boyce, Michael Johnson, and Elliott Puckette, met with an advisor from UBS. John said signature cards have been completed for UBS. The Treasurer is the primary signature; secondary signatures are the committee members. The safe deposit box at Wachovia has been inventoried by the Finance Committee. The Treasurer and the Parish Administrator have keys and have completed signature cards for the safe deposit box. John reported that endowments are being researched, then the Investment Committee will determine how to protect the endowments.

The Finance Committee recommended Bonnie Anderson to complete Bob Fulmer's term on the Finance Committee. Boyd Baker made a motion to accept Bonnie Anderson as a member of the Finance Committee. Neal Edgerton seconded the motion. The motion passed.

UBS requested a secretary of the church. The Vestry recommended Treasurer John Blich serve as secretary of the Church.

Fr. Greg suggested that the Vestry present out-going Treasurer Cindy Pennington with a framed print of St. John's at the May 3rd 10:22 service.

Fr. Joe Gibbes closed the meeting with prayer.