

**ST. JOHN'S PARISH
VESTRY MEETING
JULY 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: Fr. Greg Snyder, Fr. Dagnall Free, Treasurer John Blich, and Recording Secretary Melanie Poston.

Fr. Greg Snyder asked for prayer concerns, and then opened with a meditation and prayer.

The meeting continued with the reading of the Vision.

The minutes of the May meeting were approved as presented.

Minutes from the two special meeting in June were distributed. They will be voted upon at the August meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer John Blich reviewed the financial report for June, noting that the contributions were very good for the month. He also reported on the bank balance.

John distributed a quarterly report, and reviewed the revenues and expenses for the 2nd quarter, as well as a comparison to the same time period for last year.

John reported that St. John's has received a gift of stock, which was sold immediately, with a value of \$15,444.

OLD BUSINESS

Care and Help of Needy on Sea Islands – Getting the Word Out

Fr. Greg Snyder asked the Vestry to pray about the gifts given to St. John's and how they can be used to be a blessing to all on the Sea Islands. Discussion followed about ways we may help keep people employed and cared for. Stephen Haynsworth sent a letter to Claudia Boyce asking that consideration be given to donating the land across from St. John's High School to establish a Christian community center with swimming and activities. Other ideas discussed were to help re-build Camp St. Christopher, help the Barrier Islands Free Medical Clinic, Habitat for Humanity and Rural Missions.

Fr. Greg commended Boyd Baker on the LaRoche Building Renovations, and Boyd's efforts to hire local people to do a large portion of the remodeling. Fr. Greg stated that he envisions the gifts of St. John's being used in a similar way, on a larger scale. Other ideas included supplementing positions with the hope that the business will be able to sustain it eventually. Libby Puckette said we want to build the kingdom of the Lord first; we should dream big, and show the love of Jesus Christ.

A sub-committee consisting of Boyd Baker, Claudia Boyce, and Bruce Saxman was formed to investigate further.

Fr. Greg asked Adair to pray.

LaRoche Renovations

Boyd Baker reported that the new windows have been installed in the LaRoche Building and would be painted. Boyd hopes to have the work finished by the time Vacation Bible School begins. Boyd said Sarah will start having classes upstairs for half of the day. Boyd noted that as Fr. Greg reported, he has used local workers as much as possible. Bubba Jenkins thanked Boyd for his good work on the LaRoche Building, and led the Vestry in applause.

Insurance

Perry Gervais asked the Vestry to thank David Bernthal who, with Billy Mills, presented a new liability and property insurance policy. Directors insurance on the new policy really covers little with the exclusions. Fr. Greg noted that David will serve on the newly-created Insurance Advisory Group for the Diocese.

Perry referred to the insurance deductibles grid sent by Church Insurance of Vermont. Perry made a motion to change the deductible on our current policy from \$500 to \$10,000. Jerry Houston seconded the motion. After discussion, the motion passed.

Transportation Policy

Perry Gervais asked for volunteers to help draw up a policy. Perry gave the reminder that if something is listed as policy, it must be enforced.

Creative Learning Lease

The proposed lease for Creative Learning preschool was sent by email to Vestry members to review. Bruce Saxman made a motion to accept the lease as presented. Claudia Boyce seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Iglesia de San Juan

Fr. Greg informed the Vestry that Iglesia de San Juan has hired a part-time coordinator. Sasha Milleman was actively involved in the St. John's Youth Group as a teenager and is fluent in Spanish. She will line up priests, organize services, and do general office work for Iglesia de San Juan. Sasha will work on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday afternoons from 1:00 – 5:00 pm. She will primarily use the Administrative Assistant's office in Guerry Hall, and will help out St. John's by answering phones and assisting with office work (as able). Salary will be paid by Iglesia de San Juan.

Audio/Visual Feed to Parish Life Building

Bill Leland reported that the feed between the church and the Parish Life Building is protected for big surges, but data feed is not protected. Bill talked to an electrical engineer who will do a study and give us a report on his findings for \$500. Fox Music has determined we need surge protection on the low voltage line which is unprotected. The Vestry recommendation is that Fox Music install the proper surge protectors.

Alpha Advertising Fund

Fr. Greg met with the regional area director who is asking for help funding advertising for Alpha. Donations will help fund an Alpha website, billboards, and other forms of advertising. Libby Puckette noted that when she wrote the \$13,000 budget for 2010, \$2,000 of that was to be used for advertising. Libby said she will submit a check request for \$2,000 for the regional area advertising.

Alcoholics Anonymous

A request has been made by an Alcoholics Anonymous group to meet in a room of the Parish Life Building at 12:00 noon on Mondays and Fridays, beginning in September. It was noted that Creative Learning is still using the Parish Life Building to serve the children lunch. After discussion, it was decided that while first preference should be given to Creative Learning, if they go back to having lunch in the LaRoche Building, Alcoholics Anonymous could use the Prayer Chapel for their meetings.

Painting Interior Walls of Parish Life Building

Boyd Baker reported that the Parish Life Building's interior is in need of painting, and that it will cost about \$11,000 to paint. John Blich reminded the Vestry that we have just received a stock gift of over \$15,000. Perry Gervais made a motion to put the \$15,444 stock gift in the Building Fund. Ford Walpole seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Senior Warden's Report

Senior Warden Perry Gervais reported that he had received a letter from Jonathan Bennett, current Summer Camp Director at St. Christopher, and Jonathan is going to seminary. Jonathan will attend Trinity School for Ministry, and said it will take about \$25,000 per year for three years. Fr. Free noted that books can cost \$500-\$700 per semester. Claudia Boyce made a motion to donate \$3,000 as a one-time gift. Boyd Baker seconded the motion. John Blich reminded the Vestry that money remains in the New Clergy Relocation Fund after the Frees' move. Claudia amended her motion to include moving funds from the New Clergy Relocation Fund to the Restricted Seminarian Fund. The motion passed.

Junior Warden's Report

Junior Warden Boyd Baker reported on the most recent meeting he, Senior Warden Perry Gervais, and Fr. Greg had with Bishop Lawrence. The Bishop discussed the state of the Episcopal Church.

Perry Gervais reported that at that meeting the gift voted upon by the Vestry was given to the Bishop.

Curate's Report

Fr. Free thanked God for bringing him and his family to St. John's, and thanked everyone there for bringing him. He asked to be contacted if someone is lonely or in need of a visit.

Fr. Free reported that he has met with Sarah Hocutt, director of Creative Learning preschool. He will be an advocate for the preschool, and stressed the importance of communication between the church and the preschool.

Rector's Report

Fr. Greg distributed a handout on sabbaticals and discussed forming a sabbatical subcommittee.

Fr. Greg reminded the Vestry to pray about the use of the undesignated funds.

The Vestry was reminded that Alex Baker will give a talk about his mission trip to London and China on Sunday, July 18 after services. Lunch will be provided. Alex is considering returning for more mission work. Fr. Greg asked the Vestry to pray for his discernment.

On Sunday, August 1st, the 10:22 and 10:30 services will be a combined service in the church. This will be an instructed Eucharist service.

Other Business

Libby Puckette asked the Vestry to pray for Heather Harwell and the Fall Alpha program.

Fr. Free closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Melanie Poston
Recording Secretary