

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
VESTRY MEETING MINUTES
August 19, 2015

Present: Senior Warden- Linda Drummond, Junior Warden- Dave Monroe, Clerk- Mattie Gustafson, Treasurer- Chris Winslow, Marshall Lundberg, Christian Myers, Amanda Westrom, Anna Zambrano and The Reverend Jennifer Pedrick, Rector.

Absent: Judy Hall

Note: Karen White resigned from the Vestry via email to the entire Vestry. The Rector accepted her resignation in writing on August 22nd.

Jennifer Pedrick called the Vestry to order at 6:35 p.m.
The Vestry engaged in a Bible study of Acts 6: 1-7

Renewal Works presentation by Ray LaPointe

Renewal Works is a program adapted especially for the Episcopal Church and designed to deepen a person's relationship with God, themselves, their neighbors and the world.

Overview of the process:

1. **Parish survey** – mainly online but also available in print

As many people as possible, over the age of 18, should be encouraged to take the survey. A large number participating means more accurate data. All vestry members are requested to take it; over 50% of parishioners should also take it, in order for the results to be truly valuable.

2. **Four workshops** with 9-24 people participating

A cross section of the parish should be represented on this workshop team, including different ages, genders, etc. Each participant should be clear that their commitment is for four, 2-3 hour meetings, every other week.

3. **Analyzing data and devising 4-6 programs** that will feed the four groups Ray mentioned at the beginning of his presentation: exploring, growing, deepening and centering.

4. **Presentation to Vestry** (at a special meeting?) of these proposed programs. The Vestry will then choose a certain number of programs to mount.

Bev Hall has agreed to facilitate. We need someone to be the “administrator” who will help with preparations for meetings, etc. We also need 9-24 people for the Workshop Team.

We have approval from the Diocese, and therefore they will fund the registration cost of the program.

Meeting Agenda

Consent Agenda

Marshal Lundberg made a motion, seconded by Linda Drummond, to accept the Consent Agenda,

which includes the Rector's Report, the Senior Warden's report, the Property Commission report and the Vestry Minutes for July 29, 2015.

Rector's Time

- Safe Church Certification

All Vestry members need to be Safe Church certified. There are three vestry members who need to complete or renew this certification.

- Personnel Plans

Jennifer has decided that now is not the best time to be hiring an Assistant to the Rector. In lieu of filling this position at this time, she has suggested hiring a part-time, lay Christian Education Coordinator. This position would begin as soon as possible and run until June 2016. In the Fall, the search for an Assistant will resume when the committee will approach schools of theology.

Also, she would like to begin using Bob Brooks (or someone similar) as a "priestly backup". This person would do one sermon a month and occasionally take over the Saturday service. He/she might also do a Bible study.

We have not given up the search for an Assistant to the Rector – just put it on hold for a while. Dave M. suggested that it is key to explain this new plan for personnel to the congregation.

A motion was made by Linda Drummond and seconded by Anna Zambrano, authorizing the Rector to hire a part-time Christian Education Coordinator and to arrange for adjunct clergy support, all of which is to stay within the 2015 budget for personnel.

The Senior Warden will write a letter to the congregation explaining these decisions, but will wait until we have a Christian Education person hired to send it out.

- In-Gathering

A full report of this event is contained in the Rector's Report. Additional observations:

- Murry is in charge of pulling together the Commissions involved to begin planning.
- The whole Vestry is urged to show up for this event!
- There will be NO TRUCKS! (Especially no kids in trucks, as the liability is too great.)
- The Property Commission will figure out where to rake and what to do with leaves raked.

A motion was made by Dave Monroe and seconded by Marshall Lundberg to invite all the organizations who use St. Mary's to make a one-time financial contribution to the church as part of this In-Gathering celebration.

- Fall Stewardship Campaign

The Stewardship Commission has a full Fall program planned that will include a Christian Ed component, running from 9:15-10:15 on Sunday mornings. Vestry members should attend.

Treasurer's Report

Christine Winslow presented a full, written Treasurer's Report through the end of July 2015.

- The loose offering is down quite a bit from last year.
- The utilities budget is over its budgeted amount. We should look at trying to reduce this line item (for instance, programming all the thermostats?).
- A lot of what we spend on the property is contractual. Again – we are looking at ways to reduce this commitment.

A motion was made by Chris Myers and seconded by Linda Drummond to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Old Business

Old Parish House – Nothing to report. We are waiting for the Diocesan Standing Committee to begin meeting again to consider our request to sell the building.

Asbestos Abatement - A full, "official" permit-quality asbestos report will cost us \$900. Again, we await the response of the Diocese to determine if we will need to have this report done.

Tuck Scholarship Fund – A *pro-tem* committee has been appointed (Linda Drummond, Dave Monroe and Ted Bierman); new applications and guidelines have been drawn up. The Committee is meeting with Atty Chappell, who will review the changes made and also discuss legal issues around the plan to forgive outstanding debts to the fund.

New Business

Linda D. will send out the document describing the *Mutual Ministry Review* to the rest of the Vestry. All are asked to read this document prior to the next meeting. The Rev. Richard Bardusch has agreed to work with us as our consultant while we work through this process.

We need to set goals for 2016. These are needed for the budgetary process. All Vestry members are asked to write up their top 3 goals for the upcoming year and send them to Linda with a week to 10 days. It could be that some of the goals that were set for last year still need to be worked on, and therefore carry over into 2016.

It was suggested that the 3 goals be written at the top of each vestry agenda, so we could keep them in mind as we worked.

Executive Session

At 8:30 p.m. the Vestry went into executive session to discuss a pastoral issue.

The Rector led us in a closing prayer, and the Vestry meeting closed at 8:55 p.m. The next Vestry Meeting is scheduled for Thursday (we are back on Thursdays!), September 17th at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mattie Gustafson, Clerk