

St. Simon's On-The-Sound Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting

13 June 2016

Clergy:

The Rev'd David Lockett, Interim Rector

The Rev'd Eric Zubler (away at Kanuga)

Vestry Members:

Rhoda Adams-Reiss (absent), Gene Correll, JoAnn Gorsuch, Cathy Halprin, Bill Hardy, Bob Hauge, Senior Warden Renee Larson, Lori Lawhorn, Henry Rabby, Barbara Smith, Debbie Vaughan, Junior Warden Paul Wheeless, Youth Rep. Morgan Lawhorn (absent)

Clerk: Ellen Dodson

Treasurer: Mike Sheppard

1. **Opening Prayer** by JoAnn Gorsuch at 5:30 pm.
2. **Motions:**
 - a) Cathy Halprin moved to approve tonight's agenda as presented, and Bob Hauge seconded. The motion carried, all votes in favor.
 - b) Bill Hardy moved to approve the May 2016 vestry meeting minutes. After a second by Bob Hauge, the motion carried, all votes in favor.
3. **Finance and Budget Report:**
 - a) The treasurer reported that we're running behind on pledge and plate receipts for the first five months of the year versus projected income. In regards to income vs expenses, we're a bit under budget also but not by quite as much.
 - b) Finance Manager Joanne is in the process of sending out pledge updates to parishioners via email (for those who are signed up) and USPS. This often provides an increase in pledge income, so it is important that we as vestry members lead by example.
4. **Facilities Report – Junior Warden**
 - a) As a result of the recent annual walk-through by Facilities Committee members:
 1. Eighty-three videos have been uploaded to The Cloud.
 2. There are no new roof leaks following the recent storms.
 3. There were some extra costs related to the portico project as a result of others using the construction company's dumpster.
 4. We're waiting for two contractor proposals for nave mold/mildew damage repair. The junior warden hopes to have options to present at the July vestry meeting, including recommendations from the finance office as to whether or not we will need to open another/expand our Line of Credit.

5. In regards to the west fountain damage, we have received two reliable quotes from Cox Pools, \$15,000 and \$25,000 for repair/replacement. The next steps are to engage the insurer and the driver.
 6. Work to be done upstairs are repairs to the showers (estimate \$3K), and kitchen replacement of sink and countertops (estimate \$2K).
- b) Junior Warden Paul Wheelless requested vestry approval for two projects and discussion yielded a rational question & answer session concerning:
1. Update of the security camera system, estimate \$3K - \$5K.
 2. HVAC system:
 - i. Two units servicing the nave, estimate \$4K for repair of both, \$24K to replace.
 - ii. Programmable units need to be modernized, estimate \$3K to replace 10 units.
 3. Bob Hauge moved to allot up to \$12,000 for these projects to include repair instead of replacement on the two nave A/C units. The motion was seconded by Debbie Vaughan and approved by a unanimous vestry vote.

5. Capital Campaign: Chairman Bill Hardy distributed a draft of a letter with an attachment to be distributed at all services this Sunday to open the campaign. He will say a few words in Fr. Lockett's presence and with his support. He will be sure to clarify the disconnect with the Capital Campaign and Pledge & Plate. The letter and attachment will also be mailed to parishioners. The first two items on the project list, roof replacement and sound side/west carport repairs have been paid through our Line of Credit (which is not yet retired). The total estimated cost is \$422,000. The letter sums up the Capital Campaign as an 18-month process to raise \$500,000 to pay for the already identified repair requirements and building changes listed on the attachment, plus retire our Line of Credit. Some items to note: mold remediation will probably be quite involved, and the bell/tower needs repair before it is used again. The estimate for heat & A/C systems is for repair, not replacement.

6. Interim Rector:

- a) Fr. Lockett was encouraged by the participation at education hour last Sunday. Becoming a welcoming congregation isn't done overnight, so we will continue to explore together next month. The class will meet upcoming Sunday, June 19, after which we will take off June 26 and July 3. Then we will resume on July 10.
- b) Fr. Lockett's last Sunday as Interim Rector will be July 24.
- c) "Vestry Statement of Stewardship Commitment" was distributed. A response is not required, but vestry members have the opportunity to make this commitment by returning to Fr. Lockett with a signature. This is confidential, and he is open to a closed discussion if anyone feels strongly either way. This is basically educational for us to think about and look at what other vestries are doing, and to see the positive impact it can have.

7. Progress report on Vestry Goals for the next 8 Weeks: Senior Warden Renee Larson distributed a written update as we prepare for Fr. Knight's arrival on July 25. Highlights of discussion:

- a) The office manager has prepared a reference notebook with By-Laws, Employee Manual, Business Policy & Procedures, Emergency Action Plan, security codes, and vestry contact information.
- b) Fr. Knight and his wife Jennifer have moved to a condo west of Hurlburt Field and are getting settled. Their early move will alter our time line on the "Pound 'em strategy".
- c) There was discussion about a "Welcome" banner to be hung between the palm trees on the north side. Cathy Halprin volunteered to check into this. (An idea for the future by Debbie Vaughan is a permanent "Welcome" banner with an attachment device for individual events).
- d) Renee is organizing "Meet & Greet" gatherings with Rev. & Mrs. Knight so they can meet parishioners in small group settings. With input from a few Search Committee members, Renee has developed a list of potential hosts/hostesses around the area. After discussion, it was decided that parishioners can sign up for the gathering they would like to attend, in August – September. More to come on the details.
- e) Welcome tours will possibly grow out of "learning to be a more welcoming congregation".

8. New Business: Barbara Smith opened discussion of the idea of having sermons available for parishioners who are not able to attend services regularly or who just miss a week. Junior Warden Paul Wheelless reported that Steve Larson is working with technology resources to get streaming going. Another idea is to have a transcript of sermons (and music) available on the website. (The website needs to be updated).

9. Adjournment and prayer at 6:50 pm by Debbie Vaughan. Next vestry meeting will be held on Monday, July 11 at 5:30 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Ellen Dodson
Clerk of the Vestry