

St. Simon's on-the-Sound Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes
16 April 2015

Attendees:

The Rev'd Mark Fitzhugh, Rector

The Rev'd Eric Zubler, Associate Rector

Bob Hauge, Senior Warden

JoAnn Gorsuch, Junior Warden

Ellen Dodson, Clerk of the Vestry

Mike Sheppard, Treasurer

Vestry Members Present: Rhoda Adams-Reiss, Gene Correll, John Gardner, Cathy Halprin, Joey Havelka, Donna Kendrick, Renee Larson, John Sanders, Debbie Vaughan

Vestry Member Absent: Jackie Glover

Guest: Keith Greene

Holy Eucharist was held at 5:30 p.m. in the chapel, followed by a call to order in the parish hall with devotion by John Gardner.

Motions:

- a. An addition to the meeting agenda was requested that Jacob Fuller be licensed as a Lay Eucharistic Minister. A motion was made by Rhoda Adams-Reiss to approve the revised agenda. The motion was seconded by Cathy Halprin and the vote to approve was unanimous.
- b. A motion to approve the March 2015 minutes as presented was made by Donna Kendrick. The motion was seconded by John Sanders and the vote to approve was unanimous.

Important New Business:

- a. **Out-reach:** Joey Havelka reported that Bob's Bicycles won't be involved with the bike repair project, but Dragon Sport's mechanics have agreed to help with instruction on basic bike maintenance. Other local churches are being contacted about perhaps getting involved in the project, especially those in our vicinity which have space to keep a trailer. Money wise, Joey estimates initial costs to be around \$4,000. A five or six foot single axle trailer will cost \$1,000-\$2,000, and tools, chains, tires, tubes will be needed. Joey will contact Holy Trinity Lutheran along with Cathy Halprin who has a friend who is a parishioner there.
- b. **In-reach:** Jackie Glover and parking (report in May)
- c. **Church Use Charges:** Debbie Vaughn contacted Dwight Babcock at the diocesan office who said there is no diocesan protocol for church use charges. We are covered by our insurance policy, and the diocese has an umbrella policy with high limits. He will have a certificate to that effect sent to Debbie. He encouraged us as a vestry to explore the "why" of what we do for "whom", so we don't necessarily lock ourselves into numbers that are 'cut & dry'. After discussion and review of some of the numbers proposed at last month's meeting, it was decided that we need a fee scale document put in place. Debbie offered to develop a proposal with assistance from those in the financial office and will report at the May vestry meeting.
- d. **Treasurer's Report:**
 1. We are still ahead of our projected plate & pledge for the first quarter of 2015. The \$46K-\$47K deficit at the beginning of the year was trimmed down to \$35K in the working budget with some creative accounting. With the results of this good beginning, we've made up \$26K of this \$35K, so if this trend indicates a new normal, the deficit we began the year with will be erased.
 2. Through the first quarter, Year-To-Date Expenses were \$29,000 less than budgeted; up in receipts and down in expenses, so it is a good start.
 3. Debbie Murphy has agreed to do our audit again this year.

4. As a result of Nancy Charitat's efficiency, a \$64,000 brokerage account earning no interest was combined with \$10,000 from some grant money to qualify for a Money Market yielding $\frac{3}{4}$ of 1%. This is not much but is more than we were earning, which was nothing.
 5. The finance committee has decided to continue the working budget which was established in February.
- e. **Emergency Action Plan:** Cassidy Coffari has been updating the document indicating parishioners responsible for given tasks. Donna Kendrick offered to follow up on this project.
 - f. **Stained Glass Project in West Chapel:** Keith Greene presented a proposal for the three windows in the west chapel. He has 30 years' experience and is acting upon the long held interest of various parishioners who feel that stained glass will help beautify our worship area. There are also others who prefer the clear light coming through the windows. He met with two companies, representatives of which have visited, and he is fond of Willet Houser, an old company with five studios around the United States. The estimated costs, \$34K for faceted glass and \$38K for traditional, would include the whole works, and Keith thinks there will be enough in memorials to cover the cost of the project. Educating parishioners is important, and choosing a design to please the majority will be critical. Discussion led into the establishment of a vestry sub-committee consisting of John Gardner and Jackie Glover to work with Keith. He will provide a copy of the proposal for each vestry member.

Clergy & Staff Updates

- a. **Rector:** there will be a staff retreat Wednesday, April 22 at 9:00 a.m. A representative from Landrum Professional will facilitate.
- b. **Associate Rector:** Diocesan Conference "Adults Who Work with Youth" is taking place today through Saturday at Panama City Beach. Diocesan Youth Coordinator James Lawrence has arranged for Bishop-Elect Kendrick to attend, and he will share his vision for the diocese.
- c. **Facilities Commission/Junior Warden:**
 1. The upstairs window will be installed on April 21.
 2. The door in the nave will be installed next week.
 3. The office A/C has been repaired.
 4. Netta Holley's update on the outdoor chapel is in the e-pistle. She is organizing a raffle to raise funds for the chapel, which has approval of the vestry.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. In-Reach parking task force - Jackie Glover
2. Out-Reach bicycle repair plan - Joey Havelka
3. Building use report - Debbie Vaughan
4. Stained Glass vestry sub-committee - John Gardner, Jackie Glover, Keith Greene
5. Emergency Action Plan - Donna Kendrick (June)

CLOSING PRAYER: Renee Larson

Next vestry meeting will be held on Thursday, May 21.

Motion to adjourn at 7:05 p.m.

Respectively submitted,
 Ellen Dodson,
 Clerk of the Vestry