

St. Simon s On-The-Sound Episcopal Church

Vestry Minutes – 14 October 2015

Attendees:

Bob Hauge, Senior Warden

JoAnn Gorsuch, Junior Warden

Ellen Dodson, Clerk of the Vestry

Mike Sheppard, Treasurer

Paul Wheelless, Stewardship Campaign Chair

Vestry Members: Rhoda Adams-Reiss, John Gardner, Jackie Glover, Cathy Halprin, Donna Kendrick, Renee Larson, John Sanders, Debbie Vaughan

Vestry Members absent: Gene Correll, Joey Havelka

After an informal meeting with Bishop Kendrick, the meeting was called to order by the senior warden in the Fellowship Room with devotion by Renee Larson.

Motions:

1. A motion by Rhoda Adams-Reiss, seconded by Debbie Vaughan, yielded a unanimous vote to approve tonight's agenda.
2. A motion by John Sanders, seconded by Donna Kendrick, yielded a unanimous vote to approve the September 2015 minutes.

New Business:

1. Treasurer's Report -
 - a) Nancy Charitat will be leaving the area and resigning her position as Financial Manager since her husband has taken a job on the east coast of Florida.
 - b) As is typical, the giving pattern at the end of summer waned somewhat, but we are doing okay. Pledge & Plate Income at the end of September was within 1% of projected, in our favor. Year to date expenses remain under budget so total Operating Income exceeded expenses by \$9,344.
 - c) When we opened up the Compass Money Market Account, we used \$10,000 of the DuPont money in order to qualify for the higher interest rate. The Finance Committee decided to move the amount back, so that is the reason the money market account will contain \$10,000 less next month.
 - d) In spite of the variations and changes in spending the past months as a result of Fr. Mark's departure, the Finance Committee decided not to re-work the 2015 budget this late in the year. Nancy created a worksheet containing the changes we know about and some which are suspected or expected.
 - e) The Church Insurance Corporation reported that our hurricane deductible is being increased from 5% to 7% in 2016.

- f) "Then and Now" - In order to help ease the anxiety of those who think we are in bad shape financially, here are some comparative figures: at the end of December 2001, our checkbook balance was \$42,135 and we still owed over \$400,000 from Hurricane Opal (1995) damage. Our expenses for 2001 were \$42,495 more than our income for the year. Five years later in September 2006, our cash balance was \$10,457 only after a generous parishioner's gift of \$10,000. Then in 2008 during "the great recession", our deficit was \$75,744. Fast forwarding to 2015, the \$60,000 balance (about the lowest it has been all year) looks pretty good. The bottom line is that compared to recent times past, we are much better off. We just need a new roof!
2. Contractor List Status – Donna Kendrick called each of the four possible contractors for roof repair: Whitrock & Associates, Southeast Contractors of North Florida, Vincent Jones Roofing and JJP Roofing. Each of them has the RFP (Request for Proposal) and letters which Office Manager Cassidy sent out on 10/05/2015 and responses are due on 10/30/2015. John Fitzgerald will track the responses which he will receive via email and keep the Facilities Committee updated every Tuesday and Thursday. By 11/20/2015, the Facilities Committee will review responses and perform an analysis to allow "apples to apples" comparisons of the contractor submissions and rank them. As late as 12/07/2015, the selection committee will meet with two finalists and present results and a recommendation to the Vestry at the December vestry meeting. We hope for a January 2016 project start.
 3. Lender Choice – Treasurer Mike Sheppard received six bids from the seven lenders with which he met, and the Finance Committee narrowed it down to two. FNBT presented a \$200,000 Line of Credit at 4.5 % for 12 months, two year interest only. Summitt Bank offered 36 months Line of Credit at 4.25% and a "springing lien" with which they don't have to register the mortgage unless there is a default. This saves money on closing costs. After reporting where we stood to both parties, Mike received an offer from FNBT for a Line of Credit for five years, 4.25%. Closing costs are a bit more, but the 5 years Line of Credit is attractive compared to 36 months. Debbie Walker's motion to accept the bid from FNBT, 5 years at 4.25%, was seconded by Donna Kendrick. After discussion, the vote to approve was unanimous.
 4. Annual Meeting Preparation: The meeting will follow the 10:00 am service during which votes will be cast for 2016 vestry members and 2016 Diocesan Convention delegates. There will be senior warden, junior warden, treasurer and facility reports presented during counting of votes, with Jon Morris heading up the voting. A potluck lunch will follow the meeting and several vestry members volunteered to meet at 8:30 Sunday morning to set up the parish hall. Debbie Walker ordered a cake, and John Sanders offered to pick it up at Sam's on Saturday after 1:00pm.
 5. Vestry Nominees to be voted on at the October 18 annual meeting are Bill Hardy, Ceil Lacey, Lori Lawhorn, Henry Rabby, Barbara Smith and Paul Wheeless. The four highest majority votes will begin a three year term in January, 2016.

6. Interim Rector Rev Edward Harrison: We will have cake in the parish hall between morning services on November 1 as we welcome Fr. Edward and his wife Teresa. There will be a more elaborate welcome on Consecration Sunday, November 15.
7. Stewardship Announcements – Paul Wheelless will make a presentation at the annual meeting which will follow the Treasurer's Report. He has a productive committee consisting of Maureen Byrd, Lori Lawhorn, Steve Medina, Kristin Shinnick. The luncheon following the 10:00 service on Consecration Sunday November 15 will be catered and as of now, there are two choices of caterers, both of which require only a few days notice. Reservation cards will be distributed at services several weeks prior to that. There will be a dinner on November 8 for vestry members, stewardship committee members, and clergy to finalize plans.
8. November Vestry Meeting has been changed to Monday, November 16.
9. The new picture of Fr. Scheel in the Scheel Parlor is on loan to us by the Scheel family.

Action Items:

1. Roof contractor update
2. Stewardship update

Closing Prayer by Cathy Halprin at 5:50 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Ellen Dodson
Clerk of the Vestry