

Vestry Meeting
Thursday, June 28, 2012 3:45 pm
Rector's study

Present: Rev. Patricia Robertson, presiding; Elizabeth Carey, James Clunan, Donald Graves, Arthur Keller, Linda Lewis, Stephen Mahoney, Maude March, Nancy McCormick and Phyllis Partridge

Absent: None

Reverend Robertson opened the meeting at 4:02pm with a moment of silence and a prayer. The opening discussion was from **Chapter 4 of *Leadership and Listening*** discussed previously at the Vestry Retreat. Discussion ensued, using the take-off point that *our ability to hear God is shaped by the image of God one holds*(p82). Vestry continues to focus in this reading on how we individually and collectively may come to a better listening sense. We agreed to consider chapter 4 further at the next Vestry meeting.

I. Minutes

- a. A motion was made to approve of the modified minutes of the Maymeeting, subject to modification and of the Vestry Retreat Minutes of June 9, 2012, by Maude March, seconded by Linda Lewis. The motion was unanimously approved by all the vestry members present.**

II. Finance

- a. Discussion: Patricia noted that more of the membership was moving to pledges from general offerings (87% as pledges, up from 77% 5 years ago). This is seen as a positive trend, as it can make the budgeting process better.
- b. A motion to accept the minutes of the Finance committee was made by Arthur Keller and seconded by Stephen Mahoney. The motion was unanimously approved by all the vestry members present.**

III. Buildings and Grounds Update

- a. A quotation from Hahnel Brothers to repair the tower roof at St. Mary's was approved and signed by Patricia. The components of the repair, which includes an EPDM system, slate & gutter repairs and new snow guards totals \$9,265.
- b. St. Jude parking and grading work was discussed, in the context of the town sidewalk work, scheduled to begin this Fall.
 - i. The town-approved work permit for the changes will not have to be renewed as it is good for a year from issue date.
 - ii. The grading of the embankment will wait for the completion of the town sidewalk improvement work from the beach to Dodge Point Road.

IV. Other Business

a. Astor Bequest

- i. Discussion: A bequest was received from the estate of Mrs. Astor in the amount of \$25,000 (now \$28,610). The receipt of this bequest was brought before the Vestry.
- ii. **A motion to accept the bequest was made by Arthur Keller and seconded by Jim Clunan. The motion was unanimously approved by all the vestry members present.**
- iii. **A second motion was made that “All unrestricted bequests left to the parish go into the Endowment Fund as a way of honoring the donor.” This motion was made by Jim Clunan and seconded by Steve Mahoney. The motion was unanimously approved by all the vestry members present.**

b. Music Fund Request

- i. Discussion: A request was made to pay David Schildkret and Mary Alice Fields as music directors in July and August out of the Music Fund, with David receiving \$1,500 for his services and Mary Alice \$150.
- ii. **A motion to approve the request was made by Jim Clunan and seconded by Nancy McCormick. The motion was unanimously approved by all the vestry members present.**

V. Mutual Ministry/Mission efforts

- a. The task force for *Planning for the Future in a Time of Adaptive Change* currently comprises Ephron Caitlin, James Clunan, Axie Diana, Jean Fernald, Don Graves, Linda Lewis and Maude March.
- b. A preliminary meeting will be held at Maude's on July 1st at 4:00PM to discuss how the Vestry can dynamically involve the parish on discerning
 - i. What is important to members of the parish in their life within the church, and
 - ii. Discern what our parish and the Episcopal community on the island might look like 5 years from now.
- c. Maude will publicize this initial activity and events to follow from it, encouraging the parish to share their thoughts with members of the Vestry.
- d. Cottage meetings will be a vehicle for the further exploration of the issues mentioned in V.b., above
 - i. One of the purposes of the cottage meetings will be to bring both the summer and the year-around members of SMSJ together.
 - ii. Organizational simplicity was suggested: A morning meeting under the aegis of “Bring a Bagel” might be an effective format.
 - iii. Steve Mahoney volunteered to be the initial host.
 - iv. A facilitator was considered desirable to move things forward productively at Cottage Meetings, and the discussion sessions should be limited to an hour.

VI. Hospitality for the summer

- a. lemonade and cookies after the 10:00 Service – **Linda Lewis will coordinate the sign-up list for this activity.**
 - i. Note that on July 29th and August 12th, post service coffee will be aboard the Sunbeam, courtesy of Scott Planting.

- ii. This should be mentioned during the services and a sign-up sheet with wait list be prepared since only 40 can be on the boat at one time.
- b. Ice Cream on Thursdays – Ice Cream will be served on Thursday afternoons on Main Street as a SMSJ outreach activity as in the past. **Axie Diana is coordinating** the sign-up list to work this weekly activity during July and August.
- c. Prayer Boxes – still under discussion – needs a group and context

VII. Fundraising (ECW)

- a. Casseroles will be prepared by volunteers for sale by the ECW
 - i. July 19th and August 16th will be the dates for the sale
 - ii. **Dorothy Clunan will coordinate** the organization of these events.

VIII. Strengthening our bonds with the community

- a. Meeting with Island Housing Trust
 - i. Patricia wants to meet with the staff to determine if SMSJ might be able to support their needs in ways that could utilize the gifts of our parishioners and SMSJ itself.
 - ii. The Vestry could be notified so others interested in attending could participate.
- b. The DVD **Love Free or Die** has been ordered by Maude March.
 - i. It will be viewed subsequent to the next Vestry meeting, which will be on July 26th at 2:30PM.
 - ii. The congregation is invited to see the video at its first airing at 4:00PM on the 26th.
 - iii. The timing of the Vestry meeting and the DVD viewing were moved up by consensus to avoid a conflict with the **Flash In The Pan** steel drum performance at the new marina.
- c. Collaboration Team with MDI Churches
 - i. Patricia will pursue putting a team together in the Fall.
- d. Haiti partnership
 - i. It was suggested that all the MDI parishes align with one parish in Haiti.
 - ii. The nature of our partnership needs better defining, but Linda Lewis indicates that St. Saviour's and St. John's have been working strongly on championing the Haiti partnership and might assume leadership on this mission.
 - iii. SMSJ has a number of parishioners very interested in the Haiti ministry who might be able to work collaboratively with the other parishes on the island.

IX. Rector's Report

- a. Family Ministry update
 - i. Patricia reported that the program still is bringing in the families, with 2 in the core to start and 3, possibly going to 5 families currently involved.
- b. Stewardship consulting -a training session is set for September 22nd (Saturday morning, with Lisa Meeder Turnbull conducting the training.)
- c. Patricia will be attending the General Convention + vacation days (June 29 – July 13)

- X. Closing Prayer and adjournment**
 - a. Next meeting: July 26–2:30 pm**