

Parish of St. Mary and St. Jude
Vestry Meeting Minutes
April 26, 2012

Present: Rev. Patricia Robertson, presiding; Maude March, Nancy McCormick, and Peter Vaux

Present on Skype: Elizabeth Carey, Axie Diana, and Arthur Keller. Auditing for a portion of the meeting: Stephen Mahoney and Linda Lewis

Absent: Donald Graves, Janet Stratton

Reverend Robertson opened the meeting at 4:00pm with a moment of silence and a prayer. The assigned reading from the book, *Leadership and Listening*, was discussed with a focus on how we could apply the text to our leadership. The assignment for next month is Chapter 4.

I. Minutes

a. A motion to approve the minutes of the March meeting was made by Nancy McCormick and seconded by Arthur Keller. The motion was unanimously approved by all the vestry members present.

II. Organist

- a. Andrew Mead will serve as organist in July.
- b. Mary Alice Fields will be the organist in August and will direct the choir after David Schildkret, who will direct the choir in July and half of August, leaves.
- c. Rev. Robertson asked the vestry to approve the dispersal of additional funds from the Music Fund to cover \$1500. for David Schildkret's fee and \$150. for Mary Alice Fields' fee for directing the choir in August.
- d. **A motion to approve the additional draw from the music fund of \$1650. to pay David Schildkret and Mary Alice Fields was made by Maude March and seconded by Elizabeth Carey. The motion was unanimously approved by all the vestry members present.**

III. The Stroud Fund: The following requests were presented:

- a. Single person who is a member of the parish: \$653.43 for assorted unpaid bills(loans, cell phone and plowing bill)
- b. \$600. For the Women's Health Center to help pay for an island-wide event on Human Sexuality for parents, high school students and faculty.
- c. \$3000. For the Rector's Discretionary Fund(due to high demand the fund is quite low).
- d. A total of \$ 4253.43 was requested.
- e. **A motion to approve the requests was made by Axie Diana and seconded by Maude March. The motion was approved by all the vestry members present.**
- f. A question was posed regarding howthe distribution of the Rector's Discretionary Fund grants were determined as opposed to the Stroud grants.
 - 1. Generally the discretionary grants are smaller and can be made immediately, without vestry approval.

IV. Finance

- a. The vestry was asked to “accept” the finance committee minutes which, as a result, makes it easier for Pat Shellnut, the accountant, to receive authorization for expenditures.
- b. **A motion to accept the finance committee minutes was made by Arthur Keller and seconded by Peter Vaux. The motion was approved by all the vestry members present.**
- c. Permission was asked to give authority to Patricia Robertson and Lauri Fernald to close existing bank accounts the balances of which are being put into the consolidated accounts that are either restricted or designated, depending on the account. This effort was reviewed in the Finance Committee minutes.
- d. **A motion to grant permission to Patricia Robertson and Lauri Fernald to close the necessary accounts was made by Peter Vaux and seconded by Nancy McCormick. The motion was approved by all the vestry members present.**
- e. It was noted that the Centennial Fund is very healthy with a current valuation of \$3,224,369. and is generating \$91,000 in interest and dividends annually.

V. St. Jude’s Work

- a. No bid estimates have been submitted.
- b. Permit applications are in
- c. As there are indications that the town sidewalk work may not occur until the fall as opposed to this spring, it was deemed prudent to hold off on any St. Jude’s improvements until there is a firm decision about the town’s plans so that we would not be tying up our cash prematurely. We are waiting for confirmation on the date of installation of the sidewalk prior to making a final decision. Delaying work means we will be able to present the entire plan to the summer worshipping community for input prior to the implementation.
- d. Arthur spoke of plans for raising additional funds for the work although he thought that at least half of the St. Jude’s parishioners were against doing the work. Perhaps some of the kids in the parish could mount some sort of campaign and from a grass roots point of view, build esprit as well.
- e. We await hearing from the code enforcement officer before contacting families whose property abut that of the church.

VI. Alcohol Policy

- a. The title of the policy was amended to read: Alcohol Policy of the Parish of St. Mary and St. Jude, adopted by the vestry, January 2012.
- b. The last line of the policy was amended to read: Liability insurance is required from groups that rent any portion of church property and serve alcohol.

VII. Mutual Study of Ministry

- a. No feedback has resulted from the vestry “bullets” in the Harbor Chart or from the senior warden’s announcements during service. It was suggested that feedback be sought actively from the parishioners.

- b. Peter's transition will be discussed during service and in the Harbor Chart. Peter wants to communicate with the choir first.
- c. Monthly musical evenings are scheduled through August.
 - 1. Sing-a-long will be at St. Saviour's
 - 2. Perhaps Miriam Schildkret would consider giving a concert.
 - 3. More publicity is needed for these events.
- d. Pastoral needs
 - 1. We continue to work on communicating pastoral needs throughout the parish, including those who reside elsewhere for much of the year.
- e. Social Events
 - 1. Our goals say that we should try to plan something each month.
 - 2. The Annual Meeting will serve as a social event as food and fellowship will be available.
 - 3. Cottage Meetings: A good opportunity to follow up with commentary concerning last summer's Mutual Study of Ministry and to discuss changes in the church. Volunteers will be recruited to host some gatherings this summer.
- f. Don has been reaching out through Island Connections and will write about this in the next Harbor Chart and Maudie through the Acadia Community Theatre.
- g. A church brochure is being worked on and will be available at the new visitor's center.

VIII. Rector's Report

- a. Janet Stratton is unable to extend her term as vestry member/junior warden but Nancy McCormick is thinking about taking on that role.
- b. Holy Week went well.
- c. The old organ in the chapel has been disposed of and a new(old) organ of Peter's replaces it at the back of the chapel and seems to be a satisfactory resolution to some of the difficulties congregants were experiencing.
- d. Vestry Retreat: the date for the retreat is still under discussion as the 23rd June does not work for several vestry members, perhaps the 17th is better. It was decided that anyone in a leadership position in the parish should be invited to attend the retreat.
- e. Patricia thanked Peter Vaux for his service on the vestry by filling Mike Kennedy's unexpired term. Peter has graciously agreed to continue to chair the Buildings & Grounds committee and will be back in October to actively serve.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 pm after a prayer.

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 24th, 3:45 pm. Annual Meeting Part II: Sunday, May 27th right after 9 am service.

Respectfully submitted,

Alix C. Diana, clerk