

Parish of St. Mary and St. Jude
Vestry Meeting
July 28, 2011

Present: Patricia Robertson, Elizabeth Carey, Axie Diana, Lauri Fernald, Donald Graves, Arthur Keller, Nancy McCormick, Peter Vaux(late)

Not Present: Carroll Fernald, Janet Stratton

- I. The meeting opened with a moment of silence and a prayer. Rev. Robertson welcomed Lauri Fernald, treasurer.
- II. Chapter 6 of the book Missional Renaissance was discussed and Chapter 7 was assigned for the next meeting's discussion.
- III. **The minutes of the June, 2011 meeting were approved with the addition of Nancy McCormick as having attended. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Maude March, seconded by Donald Graves and approved unanimously by the vestry members present.**
- IV. **Mutual Study of Ministry**
 - a. Interviews are in progress
 - b. Some vestry members have had difficulty getting in touch with interviewees.
 - c. It was suggested that callers could exchange names if wished or ask for additional names from Axie.
 - d. Deadline for completion of interviews is August 11, 2011.
- V. **Finance Report**
 - a. Lauri stated that the finance committee will be keeping minutes in the future which will be presented to the vestry for approval.
 - b. The balance sheet will be reviewed quarterly but the finance committee will look at the numbers monthly. Lauri meets with the accountant, Pat Shellnutt, twice a month.
 - c. Lauri stated that the parish is fortunate to have its endowments as pledges are down in terms of receipts although there is \$160K in total pledges.

- d. The balance sheet was reviewed without need for discussion. The July financial highlights were reviewed.
- e. The finance committee met with Wind River Investments at their July meeting and performance evaluation was the focus of discussion. They are giving us a 38.5% discount on fees.
- f. We will continue to guide investments that are appropriate for the church with a small concentration in treasury bills and continue to seek bonds which perform well.
- g. OIL BIDS
 - i. The three oil bids were reviewed after a correction of the Dead River bid to \$3.519/gal and Lauri recommended we accept Coastal Energy's bid at \$3.29/gal. She will call to secure the price and to ask if we can split payments for the 4800 gallons needed into two payments one in August and one in September. The accountant is confident we have the cash liquidity to do so.
 - ii. **A motion to accept the bid of Coastal Energy was made by Maude March, seconded by Arthur Keller and approved by unanimous vote by the vestry members present.**
 - iii. **A motion to accept the financial report was made by Arthur Keller, seconded by Maude March and approved by unanimous vote by the vestry members present.**

VI. Centennial Fund Meeting

- a. Patricia and Maude attended the meeting
- b. Wilkins Investments presented at the meeting and were found to be straightforward.
- c. A new trustee may have to be elected as Sally Merchant may resign but at this point is willing to finish her current term(2013).
- d. The vestry elects new trustees. The current trustees may make recommendations for election.
- e. The Centennial Fund process was reviewed and discussed, particularly the point that the trustees would like to have longer notice when funds are requested.
- f. There was concern that the Centennial funds are taken for granted by the vestry especially when major projects need to be

funded. Most of the funds requested seem to be for buildings and grounds.

- g. It was agreed that we could project certain items further out such as roof replacement and painting.
- h. The establishment of a maintenance reserve fund was considered.

VII. Stroud Fund

- a. Four items were presented for approval:
 - i. \$3k to Mt. Desert Elementary School for the establishment of parent forums that the school would hold for the whole community sponsored by the parish.
 - ii. \$3K to Camp Beech Cliff to help fund a consultant to guide them in developing a strategic plan for year round programming.
 - iii. \$179. to help a local resident pay a utility bill
 - iv. \$1250. to the Rector's discretionary fund.
 - v. **A motion to approve the expenditures was made by Peter Vaux, seconded by Donald Graves and unanimously approved by the vestry members present.**
- b. It was recommended that in the future the Stroud Committee might limit requests that come frequently from any one petitioner. This was brought up because some petitioners may take for granted that the Stroud Fund will always provide funding for reasonable requests no matter the frequency.

VIII. Buildings and Grounds

- a. Some landscaping at St. Jude's took place without proper oversight and had to be undone – e.g. the wheelchair ramp was taken up without approval and needs to be put back and some RR ties were installed and had to be removed. The ramp may need to be better designed.
- b. Parishioner Nancy Pyne expressed concern about safety issues entering the church.

IX. The Bishop's Visit

- a. There will be only two services on Sunday August 7th and the Bishop will preside at both. St. Jude's service will be at 8am and St. Mary's at 10am.

- b. Some discussion points were suggested for the vestry's meeting with the Bishop.
 - i. The MDI Collaborative experiment
 - ii. The vestry's reading of Missional Renaissance
 - iii. What has changed in the parish? Electronic "connection"
 - iv. MSM
 - v. Ice cream outreach for food pantry and exposure of parish to public
 - vi. Summer vs Year round residents
 - vii. Community changes- church no longer center of community
- c. Patricia will send a list of discussion points.

X. Clergy Discipline Process

- a. Patricia read from a document delineating the changes in disciplinary canons. The Bishop's letter is included herewith for permanent inclusion in the minutes.

XI. Tiffany Window

- a. Arthur met with Lydia Kimball who stated that her firm rarely sells a window and could not give a proper appraisal of the window but had a resume from a stained glass expert, Julie Sloan, and said that her appraisal might cost between \$6-18K.
- b. That price being deemed too high, it was suggested that the Diocese might know of an appraiser.

The next vestry meeting is scheduled for August 25, 2011. We will discuss the MSM analysis at that time but it was considered too soon to ask Sarah Flynn to come to that meeting and Patricia will contact her to find an available date in September.

The meeting was adjourned at 6pm following a prayer led by Rev. Robertson

Respectfully Submitted,

Alix C. Diana