

St. James' Vestry Meeting Minutes February 14, 2008

The Vestry meeting was called to order at 7:05pm by Sylvia Ma, Senior Warden.

Present: Bob Honeychurch, Sylvia Sweeney, Sylvia Ma, Connie Rux, Johanne LaRocque, Jan Brandt, Greg Miller, Scott Whitaker, Charlie Paratore, Janet Fischer, Penny Trant.

Absent: Scott Kennedy, Jim McConnell, Tim Young, Linda O'Connell.

Sylvia Sweeney opened the meeting with prayer and Bible study discussion.

It was moved by Greg Miller and seconded by Scott Whitaker that the following annual appointments be made: Elizabeth Hart to serve as Clerk of the Vestry, and Janice Brandt to serve as Treasurer. The motion passed unanimously.

Bob Honeychurch led the Vestry in a team building exercise, in which we discussed how to make people feel welcome at St. James.

Junior Warden: Bob Honeychurch opened the discussion of the role of the Jr. Warden. The Jr. Warden will provide primary oversight of three clusters, to encourage them and the community in the work of the parish. The Jr. Warden serves as a member of the Lead Team, which consists of the clergy, wardens and treasurer, and as such helps create the agenda and set priorities and participates in the visionary work.

Nominations: Janet Fischer and Greg Miller accepted nominations to Jr. Warden. Janet Fischer was elected Jr. Warden.

Cluster Assignments: Cluster responsibilities were discussed. The work of the parish is currently divided into four clusters. Clergy and Vestry provide pastoral and practical oversight over the work of the parish. Vestry needs to know what the people need so we can advocate for and support them. We need to advertise our clusters and celebrate their successes. Oversight needs to be mindful and intentional.

Cluster assignments for 2008:

- Parish Life/Facilities: Charlie Paratore, Penny Trant, Scott Kennedy, Linda O'Connell
- Worship/Christian Formation: Connie Rux, Greg Miller
- Social Ministries/Congregational Care: Scott Whitaker, Johanne LaRocque
- Communications/Evangelism: Jim McConnell, Tim Young

Parish Life/Facilities cluster may be split into separate clusters at a later date.

The January, 2008 Vestry minutes were approved as submitted.

The 2008 Annual Meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

Signups sent around: get-well card for Jim McConnell, contact list, monthly dinner/closing prayer list.

Vestry retreat is set for Saturday, March 8 from approximately 10am – 4pm. Vestry members who were absent tonight must make a special effort to attend the Vestry retreat.

Greg Miller reported on Vestry Training Day at Grace Cathedral. Attendees: Greg Miller, Connie Rux, Charlie Paratore, Tim Young and Sylvia Ma. The event covered Vestry basics and clergy wellness. Greg has a CD of the training slides and an audio recording of the talks. Attendees were given resource guides and other materials. This may be discussed further at the Vestry retreat.

It was moved by Johanne LaRocque and seconded by Connie Rux to approve the expenditure of \$2,185.00 from the Winter Relief Special Interest Funds to Tri-Cities Homeless Coalition for winter relief expenses. The funds are from the last Walk-A-Rock-A-Thon and other specific contributions to winter relief. The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Scott Whitaker and seconded by Penny Trant to approve the expenditure of \$250.00 from the Special Outreach Special Interest Fund to Johanne LaRocque for expenses providing materials for the medical mission trip that she and Mike Peterson are making to Mexico. The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Connie Rux and seconded by Greg Miller to approve a request from the Memorial Garden Committee to transfer \$2500.00 from the Memorial Garden Special Interest Fund to the Memorial Garden Endowment Fund. This would allow funds not immediately needed for upkeep of the Memorial Garden to be invested for future growth. The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Greg Miller and seconded by Scott Whitaker to approve the expenditure of \$1,170.00 from the Altar Guild Special Interest Fund for the purchase of altar vases. This money had been specifically donated for this purpose. The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Scott Whitaker and seconded by Connie Rux to approve the request of the Endowment Board to appoint Joan Roberts to serve a three-year term on the Endowment Board beginning in April. The motion passed unanimously.

Reception of Cluster reports:

Communications/Evangelism report is amended to read that it is Keri Morgret, not Keri Williams, who is assisting with the web site.

Social Ministries/Congregational Care report is amended to add:

- Scott Whitaker attended a diocesan meeting which discussed the Millennium Development Goals, and attended a meeting of the Commission for the Environment. While there, he purchased and will re-sell cloth grocery bags.
- Johanne LaRocque is planning the spring Walk-A-Rock-A-Thon as a joint effort with St. Anne's, and they hope the route will be a walk from St. Anne's to St. James.

Parish Life/Facilities: no report.

Worship/Christian Formation: no report.

The next Vestry meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 13. It will be an abbreviated meeting that will run from 6:30-7:30pm, when we will adjourn so we may join the Disciple Builders class scheduled for 7:30. Janet Fischer will provide the dinner. We will eat as we work, so please be prepared to start promptly.

Closing worship was led by Sylvia Ma. The meeting was adjourned at 9:27pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Fischer, Secretary Pro-Tem