

Regular Meeting of the Vestry

THE NEVIL MEMORIAL CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE, ARDMORE, PA

Tuesday, March 1, 2016

ATTENDANCE

Present: Chris Butto, Joan Cesare, Sarah Farnsworth, Paul Joslin, Stephen Krouse, Susan LaBrake, Rob McGarvey, Janet Reddin, Catherine Stuart, The Very Rev. Ryan Whitley

Absent: none

Supplemental Documents:

a) February 2016 Financial Report

The meeting convened at 7:03 p.m.

OPENING BUSINESS

- Opening Prayer
- Spiritual Exercise – What does it take to make a church?
- Approval of the February 2016 Minutes

A **MOTION** was made by Paul Joslin to approve the minutes for the February 2016 meeting. The motion was seconded by Chris Butto. It passed unanimously.

SOCIAL, OUTREACH, CALENDAR AND COMMUNICATIONS

- Upcoming events:
 - Lunch with the Easter Bunny and plant sale – Saturday, March 19th, 11AM. Fr. Ryan suggested leaving a work order for Mark Alston to retrieve the egg-shaped plywood sign from storage and update it before posting it on the corner.
 - Holy Week services
 - Screening in Jerusalem Hall of the documentary “Where Is Our Place?” by a local priest about the plight of Christians in Iraq. Date and time to be determined. This event will be advertised both to the Deanery and the general public.
 - Corpus Christi Eucharist – Thursday, May 26, 7PM followed by (1) the Merion Deanery annual meeting and (2) a meeting of the Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament.
- An announcement will be placed in the E-Tale to remind event organizers of the availability of SOCC to advertise events outside of St. George’s.
- The next Outreach Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 26 at 7PM. Catherine is hopeful that new committee co-chairs will be in place by then. One topic to be discussed is how to distribute money raised recently from Designer Bag Bingo and Souper Bowl Sunday. The preference is to support projects that we already have connections to, such as Good Works, the Ardmore Food Pantry and St. James School.
- In other Outreach news:
 - The Lenten project to buy books for St. James School has purchased all the books on the school’s original wish list. Sarah will continue to advertise the need to purchase metal bookshelves also.
 - It was suggested that more parishioners might participate if a future Outreach meeting were scheduled on a Sunday afternoon.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

- Susan presented the 3 bids received for removing the underground oil tank, highlighting what is and is not included in each. Possible sources of funding also were discussed, including withdrawal from the

endowment, a commercial loan, and potential budget surpluses from snow removal and building repair line items. After discussion:

A **MOTION** was made by Catherine Stuart to accept the bid for tank removal from Oxford Engineering Company.

The motion was seconded by Steve Krouse.

It passed unanimously.

Susan will contact Oxford to explore the possibility of spreading out the ~\$12,000 cost over the remainder of the year.

- Paul said that Powers will service the lawn mower.
- He has discussed the plowed-in sidewalk with Cliff Pugh, who vowed it won't happen again.
- Paul also reported that the wasp nest in the oak tree that is 25 feet from the Children's Ark playground is dead so no further action is needed.
- All exterior lights appear to be working. Building and Grounds will continue to monitor the situation.
- Sarah reported the dogwood tree in the middle of the parking lot was broken by a snow pile. She will try to salvage it.

STEWARDSHIP

- The Stewardship Committee is expecting an update from Doug Stuart and will forward it to the Vestry when received.
- The next "What St. George's means to me" talk will be scheduled soon (although the comment was made that Robbie Farnsworth's homily on Youth Sunday covered some of that territory.)

FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION and WORSHIP

Accounting Warden's Report

- Rob presented the January 2016 financial report.
A **MOTION** was made by Chris Butto to receive the January 2016 financial report.
The motion was seconded by Paul Joslin.
It passed unanimously.

Rector's Report

- After discussion it was agreed that the vacant parish administrator position will be advertised as 32 hours/week, the same number of hours as when Julie Ricci held the position. The work schedule will be 8:30 to 5 Monday through Thursday, including a half-hour lunch. The salary range was agreed upon. Fr. Ryan will work with Steve and Chris to write the job description and advertisement.
A **MOTION** was made by Steve Krouse to advertise the position of parish administrator as discussed.
The motion was seconded by Chris Butto.
It passed unanimously.
- Julie's last day will be March 8. Before she leaves she will create bulletins through Easter Sunday, which Fr. Ryan will print out. Until a new administrator is found Mary Hobart and Joan Cesare will answer phones and handle visitors; Janet will update the Web site; and tellers will be asked to create spreadsheets and print deposit slips. Rob will scan and send bills to the accountant then pick up the checks, which Rob and Catherine will sign.
- A farewell celebration for Julie will be held during coffee hour after the 10AM service on March 6. Chris and Sarah will arrange for a sheet cake and notify the coffee hosts.

- The disposition of the harpsichord in Jerusalem Hall was discussed. The instrument has been sitting unused for so many years that no one currently attending St. George recalls its origin. Fr. Ryan will ask the previous rector whether he remembers the history. If the original donor can be identified, it was suggested that he/she be recognized by placing a plaque on the harpsichord. A music student has expressed interest in the harpsichord. Fr. Ryan will suggest the possibility of making a trade, where the student would receive the instrument in exchange for a certain number of hours of participation in the music program.
- The new carpet for Jerusalem Hall has been selected and will be installed before Holy Week.
- The previously-discussed plan for new interior signage stalled because no actual quote was received. Prodding the vendor for a quote will be added to Fr. Ryan's Action Item list.
- Fr. Ryan asked if anyone would like to volunteer to serve as a teller of elections at the Special Convention to elect a Bishop Diocesan to be held at the Cathedral on Saturday, March 12. On Thursday, February 18 he attended the candidates' forum at Church of the Good Samaritan, accompanied by Catherine, Paul, Steve, Joan and Christina Webster. Those who attended reported favorably on the process of listening to and discussing the five candidates.

Rector's Wardens' Report

- Capital Campaign Update – ceiling fans. Paul reported that he is still working to obtain three quotes for ceiling fans in the nave that include the cost of installation. It was agreed that Catherine will put an item in the E-Tale to update parishioners on the status of this project and to solicit their suggestions for vendors who can handle installation in very high (> 30 ft) ceilings.
- Doug Stuart has written a courtesy letter to AT&T informing them that if they do not act to either install a second cell antenna or renew the agreement to reserve space for that we will look elsewhere for interested parties.

REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS

SHEEP CONCERNS

AFFIRMATIONS

To Joe Walsh for his assistance in arranging for the new carpet to be installed in Jerusalem Hall.
To Nina Wickersham for revamping the Children's Corner.

ADJOURNMENT

A **MOTION** was made by Catherine Stuart to adjourn the meeting.
The motion was seconded by Paul Joslin.
It passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Reddin, Secretary