

Regular Meeting of the Vestry
THE NEVIL MEMORIAL CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE, ARDMORE, PA
Tuesday, April 4, 2017

ATTENDANCE

Present: Chris Butto, Joan Cesare, Andrew Coonradt, Paul Joslin, Stephen Krouse, Rob McGarvey, Janet Reddin, Catherine Stuart, The Very Rev. Ryan Whitley

Absent: Susan LaBrake

Supplemental Documents:

- a) February 2017 Financial Report
- b) Investment Policy update

The meeting convened at 7:03 p.m.

OPENING BUSINESS

- Opening Prayer
- GUEST SPEAKER: Maureen Krouse, Chair of “Invite, Welcome, Connect” Committee. Maureen reported that her newly-formed committee has met twice already and has decided to concentrate first on the “Invite” part of their mission which, she added, applies to everyone not just newcomers. Ideas for physical improvements include repainting the blue sign that’s near the door from the parking lot, brightening the lighting in the Bride’s Entrance and in the rear entrance from Sulgrave (including adding a spotlight for the St. George statue), installing a curtain to hide the contents of the closet at the back of the nave, and adding a sign by the Rectory driveway directing people to the church. Other suggestions include positioning an usher near the stairway from the parking lot to help direct visitors, stationing an usher at the back of the nave after Communion to invite people to coffee hour, and having ushers hand out visitor cards. Efforts will be made to recruit more ushers so that up to four can be present for 10 o’clock services. Ideally, on special occasions ushers could be stationed in the parking lot to direct traffic and to encourage parishioners to park in the Sulgrave lot. Maureen stressed that the committee is inviting suggestions from everyone. The other members of the committee are Tina Lightcap, Roland Noreika, Eileen Kammerer and Bernadette Matthews Moore.
- Approval of the March 2017 Minutes
A **MOTION** was made by Paul Joslin to approve the minutes for the March 2017 meeting as amended. The motion was seconded by Andy Coonradt. It passed unanimously.

SOCIAL, OUTREACH, CALENDAR AND COMMUNICATIONS

- Upcoming events:
 - Easter Bunny Brunch and Plant Sale – Saturday, April 8, 11 AM to 1 PM. Organizers: Sam Soldan, April Chester and Sarah Farnsworth
 - Holy Week Services:
 - Sunday, April 9 - Palm Sunday services, 8 AM and 10 AM
 - Monday, April 10 - Stations of the Cross, 7:30 PM
 - Thursday, April 13 - Maundy Thursday service, 7:30 PM
 - Friday, April 14 - 6:45pm - Stations of the Cross, 6:45 PM. Good Friday Liturgy, 7:30 PM

- Saturday, April 15 - The Great Vigil of Easter, 5:00 PM. Debut of new kitchen.
- Sunday, April 16 - Easter Sunday services, 8 AM and 10 AM
- Designer Bag Bingo – Friday, April 21, 7 PM. Organizers: Bryn Smythe and Bernadette Matthews Moore.
- Haverford Guild of Craftsmen Spring Show – Friday and Saturday, April 28-29.
- Kentucky Derby Day – Saturday, May 6, 4:30 to 7 PM. Organizers: Liz Havens, Donna DiPaulo and Joan Cesare.
- Vocal Motive Concert– Saturday, May 6, 7 PM
- Outreach Committee Meeting – Tuesday, May 9 at 7 PM
- Good Works Work Day – Saturday, May 13, 7:45 AM to 3 PM. Organizer: Eileen Kammerer.
- Chicken BBQ – Saturday, May 20, 11 AM. Organizers: Andy Coonradt and Chad Strickland.
- Lunch with Veterans – Saturday, June 3 at VA Hospital, Philadelphia. Organizer: Toneh Williams.
- Matinee Movie – Saturday, June 10 at 2:30 PM in Jerusalem Hall
- July-December Calendaring Meeting – Sunday, June 11 after 10 AM service.
- BYOM – Sunday, June 11 at 5 PM, near Bride's Entrance.
- Toneh Williams' ordination to the Diaconate – Saturday, June 17th at 10 AM, Philadelphia Episcopal Cathedral.
- Mass on the Grass – Sunday, June 18, 10:30 AM, Merry Place
- Aid for Friends meal prep – Sunday, June 25 after 10 AM service
- BYOM – Sunday, July 9 at 5 PM, outside near the Bride's Entrance.
- Outreach Report – The Lenten project of collecting new sheets, socks and underwear for distribution to homeless veterans via the Veterans Multi-Service Center continues to go well. Casey O'Donnell, CEO and President of IMPACT Services, Philadelphia will speak at both services on May 7th about their veterans services, which include housing, employment and street outreach. Proceeds from the chicken BBQ and the Kentucky Derby Day will be donated to this organization. Proceeds from the Designer Bag Bingo event will be donated to the summer camp program at St. James School. Bryn Smythe is organizing a bake sale at the Haverford Guild of Craftsmen's Spring show. Those proceeds will go to Outreach.
- Andy reported on his efforts to make the St. George web site more mobile device-friendly. So far he has looked at two web hosting options: Squarespace and Weebly. Rob commented that there are many companies offering WordPress hosting (see list [here](#), for example). Fr. Ryan suggested also looking into making our web site ADA compliant.
- Andy has created a spreadsheet of last year's events, categorizing them by event type and audience to assist us in ensuring there is an even distribution of events for all age groups.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

- Paul said that so far he has talked to two slate contractors: [AMDG](#) and [Skyline Roofing](#) in Media. He has also spoken to contractors about the Rectory porch rail and Tudor façade repairs but has no quotes yet.

- Paul and Luke Dorey inspected the Infants Room in The Ark and could find no evidence of a water leak. Luke sent a note to The Ark to move the table and chairs from the top of the stairs. Paul has an 'Emergency Exit – Do Not Block' sign to post there.
- Today Fr. Ryan called the company that did the stone pointing, Mongelli, to come inspect the leaks above windows in the kitchen (nearest the dishwasher) and dining room. [N.B. Absolute Chimney actually performed this repair.]
- Paul said he called Unique Heating about the non-functional radiator in the St. George Chapel but isn't sure whether they came out. He will follow up.
- Schreiner Tree Care looked at the oak tree that The Ark was concerned about and said it is fine.
- Fr. Ryan mentioned that there is a tree limb in the Sulgrave lot which a neighbor is concerned about because it extends over his brick shed. Fr. Ryan recommended that the limb be removed the next time we have tree work done.
- Sarah and Joan have planted boxwoods on either side of the floodlight that illuminates the tower in order to screen it from the road. Paul said he also could pitch the light up farther because currently it also illuminates the grass. Joan will trim the bushes back from the St. George sign.
- New project: The Ark playground platform doesn't extend to the wall, leaving a two-foot gap that the children like to race through, which creates a trip and fall hazard. Possible solutions include extending the platform to the wall or creating a barrier with shrubs/trees.

STEWARDSHIP

- Steve reported that we received another pledge. The best dates for "What St. George's means to me" talks in the next few months are April 23 or May 14.

FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION and WORSHIP

Accounting Warden's Report

- Rob presented the February financial report.
A **MOTION** was made by Steve Krouse to receive the financial report.
The motion was seconded by Andy Coonradt.
It passed unanimously.
- Rob now has online access to Wells Fargo so he will be able to fill in the endowment withdrawal information.
- Rob added a line for Kitchen Renovations to the budget to track those expenses electronically (the initial money came from the General Fund, but money was transferred back and forth from the Capital Campaign account several times). There is also a paper trail of receipts documenting the expenditures.
- The update to the Investment Policy recommended by the Investment Committee was presented. The two changes are (1) reducing the spending rule from 5% to 4% and (2) lowering the expected return on investments from 8% to a more realistic 6%.
A **MOTION** was made by Janet Reddin to approve the changes in the Investment Policy.
The motion was seconded by Steve Krouse.
It passed unanimously.

Rector's Report

- Fr. Ryan reported that the AT&T cell tower lease is signed, sealed and delivered for which we will receive \$5,000 plus a \$1,000 deposit. Then if AT&T doesn't act within 13 months they will have to pay an additional \$1,000. However they already have had a crane out to measure for panels to hide the antennae so installation may begin this year. Ryan notified Rad Delaney that his efforts have borne fruit.
- The Vestry retreat is Saturday, April 22nd at St. Christopher's, Gladwyne. If we start at 9 we can wrap up with lunch. The theme is discipleship. Vestry members are reminded to read the book *Being Disciples* by Rowan Williams.
- Ways of recognizing Pete Ricci's work as Chair of the Kitchen Renovation Committee were discussed. Catherine will investigate a package that includes a night at the General Warren Inn in Malvern. Steve will investigate having a plaque created that lists the names of all members of that committee.
- Fr. Ryan has created a wish list on Amazon for the Jerusalem Hall library. Janet suggested supplying bookplates so that parishioners who donate books will receive recognition. Andy suggested adding a children's section to the wish list.

Rector's Warden's Report

- Derron LaBrake cut his finger so the toilet replacements have been postponed until that heals.
- Jack Tinkler has asked what is the next project for the Capital Campaign. Current priorities are repairing the parking lot, putting up new signs, and repaying the endowment.
- Julie Ricci has agreed to work with David Farnsworth to finish the parish audit. They will pick five new random pledger records to review.
- Steve Krouse will meet with the tellers after Easter to conduct training.

SHEEP CONCERNS

AFFIRMATIONS

To Tommy and Joey Ricci and Collin Ney for their help with the kitchen renovations.

ADJOURNMENT

A **MOTION** was made by Steve Krouse to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was seconded by Chris Butto.

It passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Reddin, Secretary