

# St. John's Episcopal Church

## Vestry Meeting Minutes

**Wednesday, April 9, 2008 (Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Priest, Theologian and War Resister)**

**Present:** Tom Ward (Senior Warden), Alicia Faxon, Rob Watters (Junior Ward), Lindsay Cannon (Clerk), Dawn Tesorero, Claire Laton-Taylor, Manny Fernandez, Vira DeFilippo

**Also Present:** Steve Domienik, The Reverend Anne Fowler

**Absent:** Lori Deane, Nicole Valtz, Jim Ellis, Paul Cronin-Swalboski, Andrew Schieffelin (Treasurer)

Meeting was called to order at 7:32pm. Information was shared about Dietrich Bonhoeffer and was followed with a prayer by The Reverend Anne Fowler.

### **Review & Approval of Minutes**

Minutes were approved.

### **Rector's Remarks**

Anne is a grandmother to be, we are still awaiting the arrival of the baby. Therefore we are not sure when Anne will be out. Kathy, friend of Anne, has accepted a position at a nearby church in Roxbury. Matthew, another friend of Anne, has taken a position in Wakefield.

### **New Business**

#### **I. Schedule Ahead**

##### **A. Parish Work Days (4/12, 5/3)**

1. Mural Room Project: We are prepping for the painting of the Mural Room. The goal is to get most of it done this upcoming Friday and Saturday.
2. (5/3) is an outside workday. This is very important with upcoming Bishop's visit.

##### **B. Experiment with Morning Prayer**

1. Tom thanked Steve for the write up of the experiment with Morning Prayer.
2. Supply Priest Issue: 2 out of 5 Sundays for August are covered. Anne guesses there will be a few objections but most of the Parish will not mind. It is important to test this assumption.

##### **C. Open House Downstairs & Bishop Shaw's Visit (5/10)**

1. Taskforce for renting downstairs: Tom mentioned this will be a good subject for the Communications Committee.

2. Tom volunteered to leaflet/flyer the neighborhood.
3. Rob suggested we send invitations to specific groups/people such as Pine Construction.
4. Lori should start working on some refreshments.

**D. Next Vestry Meeting (5/14)**

1. After the Bishop's visit
2. Need to follow up with the Hospitality Committee and Communications Committee.
3. There was a brief discussion on a program for the Open House to honor certain people; Bishop Shaw may want to say a few words, bless other spaces and place one of the bricks.

**E. Silent Auction**

1. This will be on June 7<sup>th</sup>. Nicole and Katie are co-chairs.
2. We have past records of who has donated in the past and are concerned about donations.
3. We need help with:
  - Logistics
  - Donations
  - Publicity
  - Phone Tree
  - An MC
4. Tom encourages everyone to think about how they can contribute to the Silent Auction.

**F. School Picnic**

1. The Picnic is on June 8<sup>th</sup> and does not seem to conflict with the Silent Auction
2. Tom volunteered his grill for the Picnic

**G. Newcomer's Brunch**

1. This is in relation to Mission and Outreach and has been at the Rectory in the past.
2. Vira suggested combining the School Picnic and Newcomer's Brunch
3. It is important to make sure the event focuses on the Newcomers, and making people feel welcome was stressed.
4. Anne suggested we should try to make invitations for the Newcomers.
5. Tom encouraged the Vestry to seek new members and invite them. Dawn volunteered to call and personally invite them.
6. *St. John's Parish Picnic*- new title for combining the School Picnic and Newcomer's Brunch
7. For the next meeting, there will be a list of Newcomer's and Vestry members will be assigned a few phone calls.

**II. Update of PSP**

**A. Bricks**

1. Granite and bricks will be arriving soon.

**B. Resumption of Construction Activity**

1. There will be a meeting with Pine Construction

**C. Scope of Work and Timeframe to Completion**

1. We need to have as much as possible completed for the Bishop's visit

### **III. Space Rental Taskforce**

#### **A. Kids...Together in the ARTS!!! Summer Camp 2008**

1. This program's rent was being increased therefore they were referred to us, and will be renting the downstairs space.
2. They would like to put a banner in the Church lawn and a few lines in the Bulletin.
  - a. The Vestry agreed this was okay
3. Anne suggested taking up a collection to donate for a child to attend the summer camp or getting money to a sponsor. This needs to be checked to see if Kids...Together in the ARTS does this already.
4. Tom mentioned JP Moms and ARTS Program will need to be flexible and are willing to work around one another.

#### **B. Pre-schools and Other Potentially Interested Parties**

1. We need to know what our responsibilities are and what we expect our tenant to be responsible for.
2. What is the space worth? Occupancy Permit? We need to have the space evaluated to see how many kids we can be licensed for.
3. Concerned about mixed use of the space. We may want to consider only having one operation renting downstairs.
  - a. Locked cabinets will make it easier to have shared space with Sunday school.

#### **C. Vestry Input to the Task Force**

1. Everyone is encouraged to help Rob with the Task Force

### **IV. Planning Task Force**

#### **A. Evolution from Capital Campaign Committee**

1. How do we go about raising more money?

#### **B. Report from Meeting on Sunday**

1. Regarding the Parish Profile: Steve discussed experience from having session of asking congregations certain questions.
2. Re-evaluating what we want to build at St. John's-having the parish involved in this process, expanding the discussion.
3. There is a question of "what next?" What is going to be the next big plan?
4. Part of the planning process will be to create Task Force in the Fall to capture all the input we can via different events.
  - a. This is an important task before we attempt to raise more money. It has to start with The Planning Task Force and expand via the Vestry and then we will have to come back together, gather the information and use it.
5. Vira mentioned that there seems to be a void or disconnect in Parish Life, and there is a need and tendency to want to fill that void.

### **V. Other Issues**

#### **A. Deanery Meeting**

1. We will be hosting this meeting May 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm.

#### **B. Insurance**

1. Went with Diocesan policy, better coverage.

#### **C. Steve Domienik and Summer Plans**

1. Steve is being ordained as a Transitional Deacon
2. He will be going to South Africa
3. Hoping to come back to St. John's in the Fall as a Transitional Deacon.

Meeting was adjourned after a prayer led by the Reverend Anne Fowler at 9:05pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lindsay M. Cannon, Clerk