

St. John's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 13, 2008 (John Myrick Daniels, Seminarian)

Present: Lindsay M. Cannon, Alicia Faxon, Vira DeFilippo, Paul Cronin-Swalboski, Andrew Schieffelin, Jim Ellis, Lori Deane, Rob Watters, Claire Laton-Taylor, Tom Ward, Dawn Tesorero

Absent: Manny Fernandez, Nicole Valtz

Also Absent: The Rev'd Anne Fowler

The meeting was called to order and opened with a prayer by Tom Ward at 7:32 pm. Tom shared information about John Myrick Daniels.

Review and Approval of Minutes

Minutes were briefly reviewed, no changes needed. Minutes approved.

New Business

1. UPCOMING KEY DATES & SCHEDULING ISSUES

a. B&G Work Days, August 27th

-This will start at 6:30pm on August 27th. Will be working on the tower and attempting to make the tower look more finished.

b. Homecoming/Back to 10:30 Sunday, September 7th

c. September Vestry Meeting, September 17th

-Tom reminded the Vestry that our meeting will occur the third week in September rather than the second week.

d. Yard Sale, September 27th

e. Long-Range Planning/Visioning Kick-off, Early October

f. St. Francis Day Blessing of the Animals, October 5th (*later decided this will be held on Saturday, October 4th rather than Sunday October 5th*).

-Tom mentioned that Anne is willing to have the event again if people are interested and willing to advertise the event.

g. First Night Chant, also October 5th?

-This date may change as Daryl is still having auditions in early October.

h. October Vestry Meeting, October 8th

-Please keep in mind this is the second week of October but occurs earlier than usual.

i. Progressive Dinner, October 18th or 25th?

-will be discussed in more detail later in the meeting

j. Stewardship Campaign Kick-off, early November

-Tom will be leading/planning this campaign and hopes to schedule events centered around meals and inviting Newcomers.

k. Parish School Workday, August 16th, 9:00am-12:00pm

2. SUPPLY PRIESTS AND DATES

a. The Rev'd Amy McCreath, August 17th

b. The Rev'd Anne Minton, August 24th

c. The Rev'd Stephanie Spellers, August 31st

-This service will replace the previously scheduled Morning Prayer

d. The Rev'd Mary Scott Wagner, September 28th

-Anne has arranged this as she will be absent that Sunday

e. Core group of Supply Priests

-Tom suggested we think about forming a core group of Priests to pull from, especially in light of Anne's upcoming Sabbatical and increase in time off.

-Tom also mentioned Franklin would like feedback on the Supply Priests to arrange for this core group.

g. Steve Dominik is now a Deacon and will still be helping out at St. Johns

3. REPORT FROM LONG-RANGE PLANNING SESSION (JULY 24TH)

a. We want to form a new Mission Statement

-We need to find out why people come to St. Johns, what they are looking for and especially what keeps people coming to St. Johns.

-From there, we will develop other programs and activities

b. Facilitated Event

-We would like to have a facilitated event with the Parish.

-Anne has identified two facilitators she is interested in and thinks would be good for what we have in mind.

-Need to identify a date-sometime in October.

c. Progress by February 2009

-Would like to have made progress by February/Annual Meeting

-Rob added that all of this is a question of, "Where do we go from here?" and that the goal is to have a workshop, something facilitated.

4. PLANS FOR YARD SALE & PROGRESSIVE DINNER

-The Yard Sale is scheduled for September 27th.

-Jim announced he would put a sign up sheet in the back of the church for people interested in volunteering for the event.

-Still need to find a place to store the donations.

-Jim has spoken with Vira about flyers that will be made. Alicia suggested putting flyers up at the Eliot school since the Yard Sale is the same weekend as Open Studios. She also suggested drawing arrows on the sidewalk that point toward the Yard Sale.

-Jim also inquired about getting more sports tickets and having a raffle similar to the raffle for the Silent Auction.

a. Yard Sale Leftovers (see handout)

-Recycling any electronics.

-Rob suggested that Recycling 4 Green could possibly be used as an ongoing method of raising money for the church.

-Tom suggested testing out the information on the handout and see how it works for us during the yard sale, and then possibly using it in the future if it turns out well.

b. Advertising for Yard Sale

-Vira suggested sending an e-mail to our tenants announcing the Yard Sale.

c. Progressive Dinner

- Looking for a house to host the dinner.
- The tentative date for the Progressive Dinner is October 18th.

5. OUTREACH/MARKETING WITH PEW BROCHURES & BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

a. Tom is working on Pew Brochures

- This is a document that would hold us over until we decide on the new mission for St. John's

b. Blessing of the Animals

- Vira suggested creating a dog walking-social-gathering after the ceremony.
- Decided event will be moved to October 4th.

6. NEW SYSTEM FOR COFFEE HOUR HOSPITALITY

- Lori reviewed an idea about how to introduce the new system to the Parish. This involves having Parishioners vote on how they would prefer to carry out coffee hour.
- Tom suggested we introduce this at the 1st 10:30am service, September 7th. Jim mentioned we should ask the Parishioners to put their responses in the offering plate. We will also have one last announcement to turn in their sheets at the end of the service.

7. LOOKING AHEAD TO STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

- Focusing on outreach to Newcomers. Tom is hoping to have Newcomer brunches, do a presentation on St. Johns that includes information on, for example, St. John's history. This is something that is meant to be welcoming.
- Alicia suggested we should really talk about tithing during this campaign.

8. FINANCIAL ISSUES UPDATE

a. New Assistant Treasurer/Transition in Accounting

- Pat has agreed to help Andrew with Accounting. Andrew and Catherine's schedules are not working, so Pat will take over the responsibility of bookkeeping. Pat and Catherine will be working together to transition all the documents.

b. New Church Office in Rectory

- Rob suggested having the Church office in the Church rather than the Rectory, this will avoid invading Anne's privacy. Books can be kept at the Rectory.

c. Follow-up Finance Committee Meeting

- Tom mentioned having a Financial Committee Meeting soon.

9. OTHER ISSUES

a. Bricks-Alicia inquired about when the Bricks will be finished.

b. Communications Committee-Vira mentioned that she needs help and is still looking for help. She suggested getting rid of Glad Tidings since we have the website and other forms of media. Vestry voted that cancelling Glad Tidings is fine.

c. Lead Pipe and Rectory Porch Steps-may possibly need to be replaced.

Meeting was adjourned after a prayer led by Tom at 9:02pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lindsay M. Cannon, Clerk