

St. John's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 11th, 2009 (Absalom Jones)

Present: Lindsay M. Cannon, Rebecca Young, Paul Cronin-Swalboski, Nicole Valtz, Chris Ashley, Jim Ellis, Andrew Schieffelin, Ed Stedman (Sitting in for Margaret), Lori Deane, Dawn Teserero

Also Present: Rev. Anne Fowler

Absent: Lee Haller, Rob Watters, Claire Laton-Taylor

Start/Opening Prayer

Anne began with a few words about Absalom Jones and a prayer at 7:35pm.

Review & Approval of Minutes

Minutes from January's meeting were approved.

New Business

1. Welcome and discussion of vestry functions

- a. Vestry members introduced themselves. Anne welcomed new vestry members and discussed how meetings will function. Anne reminded the vestry to avoid micromanaging and to use the meetings to: discuss, action-plan, handle tasks, and make decisions.
- b. Roles of Parish Leaders: to set the tone of how we expect people to behave in the Parish, setting an example and being mindful of newcomers. Recruit people to help with tasks and events.

2. Upcoming Key Dates

- a. Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner at Rectory, 2/24 6:00pm
-Kids are welcome to come.
- b. Ash Wednesday, 2/25
-There is a service at 7:00am and 7:00pm.
-There will be a Eucharist scheduled every Wednesday during Lent at 6:30pm.
- c. Parish Work Day & Angel Food Pick-Up, 2/28
- d. Next Vestry Meeting, 3/11
- e. Lenten Programs, 9:00am for the 5 Sunday of Lent, reading a work by author Jim Adams.

3. Committees

- a. Vestry roles; membership (chart is available on the backside of the February 2009 Agenda).
-Communications: Chris mentioned he was interested in featuring stories about individuals in the Parish.
-Hospitality: Lori talked about the need to recruit more people for this committee.

-Finance: Andrew explained some details of the finance committee. Financial decisions are made along with the Senior Warden, the Treasurer and a few other parish members.

-Building and Grounds: Jim explained the committee needs to have a chair with more knowledge regarding repair needs and general construction knowledge.

- Outreach and Advocacy: Dawn heads this committee, it covers programs, the arts, marches and hosting.

-Sabbatical: There was a reminder that Anne will be gone May-Aug. Anne Minton will be covering.

-Children and Education: Need to have regular check-ins with the teachers and there should be more communication with parents.

-Stewardship/Long Range Planning: Keep it on the radar. Mentioned the need for help with the Altar Guild.

4. Nightsong update

a. Every Sunday evening at 7:00pm.

b. Needs Parishoner participation in greeting. Anne thinks it would be great for parishioners to greet more people and encourage attendance at Sunday Service.

c. The March 29th special program will need to involve hospitality.

5. Angel Food Ministries status update

a. Nicole will have Rob talk more about this at the next meeting.

6. *Hosting Alzheimer's Support Group*

a. A neighbor of Anne's is looking for a place to have a Support Group Meeting.

b. Andrew reiterated possible conflicts this could cause.

c. We will try hosting for a few months and see how it pans out.

7. Other

-Vestry retreat-Chris will sending out an e-mail with details concerning this event at BU on March 7th.

Closing Prayer/Finish

Meeting was closed with a prayer at 9:02pm.