

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
Newton Lower Falls, Massachusetts

Minutes of Vestry Meeting, November 17, 2009

PRESENT: Margaret Schwarzer, Mary Green, Beverly Hurney, Kitty Smith, John Turtle, Lynn Farnell, Mike Stevens, Paul Pyzowski, Maryjane Burgess, Ariel Acuna, Jon Hayden, Dick Sabin, Stewart Tucker, Sarah Williamson, Elisabeth Rippy, Nick DePeyster.

The Vestry meeting opened with a prayer by Margaret Schwarzer.

The minutes from October were reviewed and approved as submitted.

NEW BUSINESS: Ariel Acuna attended to report for the Investment Committee meeting this past week. A written report is attached. There was discussion about investment of the outreach fund. It is currently in a Treasury bond. One idea was to invest it with the DIT in line with other church investments. Ariel will talk to DIT about the feasibility of setting it up with annual withdrawal. Bev will talk to Elisabeth for the Outreach Committee. A vote will be taken at the next Vestry meeting.

The annual meeting date is set for January 24th, 2010.

It was decided to update the congregation on budget and property items. It will be good to have the facts out to everyone and to look for feedback from congregation.

John Turtle gave a report on the Diocesan Convention. One item passed at the convention is the updated assessment calculations. The assessment is 15.5% of operating costs less \$\$,000.

**COMMITTEE
REPORTS:**

Interim Priest
Report:

A written report from Margaret is attached. She brought up that Diocesan guidelines are that the doors to the Sunday School classrooms should have windows. We will continue consider this in line with other projects in the future.

Search Committee: Sarah reported for the search committee. A letter from Vivian has gone out. On Nov. 15 they stopped accepting names. 60 people have applied. That number has been narrowed to 11. The next

step is phone interviews by “teams” from the committee. They will ask the same questions. They have been asked for sermons. The next round of interviews will probably be done by late December. Paul is now asking for an idea of the budget for the search.

Stewardship: Stewart Tucker reported. The mailing went out well. A box was added about getting a personal call. Julia is preaching this Sunday, Nov. 22nd. The Peter Chase Society will be addressed after the new year.

Treasurer: Mike Stevens went over the 2009 figures. There was much discussion of the 2010 budget proposed figures.

Membership: No report.

Property: Jon Hayden reported on property. The kitchen and pantry in the rectory is almost finished. Not much else in rectory needs to be done.

There will be a new lock on the back door near the nursery school. A proposal for an intercom and visual system for the main Parish Hall door is in progress.

The furnace is still a problem. An engineering report from Trethewy Bros. will be coming. Mary Green has worked with a consultant and he will come in with another firm for an independent assessment of what may be going on.

Interim Priest
& Staff:

-

Youth &
Christian Ed:

A report from Isabel is attached.

Outreach:

Elisabeth Comer asked for a vote on the new proposed outreach disbursements which are attached.

VOTE TO APPROVE AS SUBMITTED

Women of
St. Mary's:

Set-up for Foods & Fancies starts tomorrow.

Tenants: Dick and Paul will talk about the new lease next year for Hills and Falls. Safety signs are going to be used in the driveway for kids. There have been meetings with Cate over the past months making relationships easier.

Churchyard: The dead tree has been taken down.

Worship: No report.

Altar Guild: No report.

Hospitality: No report.

Music: Kitty reported for Kirsten. A written report is attached.

Deanery: No report.

St. Mary's
Historian: A genealogical inquiry came in from down south.

Margaret concluded with a prayer.

The next Vestry meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 15, 2009 at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Farnell, Clerk