

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

Minutes of Vestry Meeting, October 20, 2009

PRESENT: Margaret Schwarzer, Mary Green, Beverly Hurney, Kitty Smith, John Turtle, Lynn Farnell, Elisabeth Comer, Mike Stevens, Paul Pyzowski, Maryjane Burgess

The Vestry meeting opened with a prayer by Margaret Schwarzer.

The minutes from September were reviewed and approved as amended.

NEW BUSINESS: The nominating committee will be forming with the two wardens, rector and the outgoing vestry members. We also need to ratify Sarah Williamson's appointment from 2009. Paul's term as senior warden ends January 2010. Stewart Tucker will be nominated as the next junior warden.

**COMMITTEE
REPORTS:**

Interim Priest
Report:

Margaret submitted a written report which is attached. It was agreed that the informal greeting at the beginning of the service is nice. It will be left as is until Advent starts. There are three ways to take communion. A confirmed acolyte will offer the intinction cup. Another lay Eucharistic minister can come in and pinch hit if there are no confirmed acolytes that day. This system will be used through flu season.

The discretionary fund needs to have a vote on use as both hospitality and outreach funds.

**VOTE TO ALLOW FUNDS TO BE DISPERSED AS NOTED
ABOVE.**

Search Committee: Mike Stevens reported that the next meeting is tomorrow night. Names have come in from the CDO. The list is being narrowed and "no" candidates are being notified quickly. There have been 53 applications so far. Vivian will do a short report for inclusion with the warden's stewardship letter in early November.

Stewardship: A proposed calendar for the drive is attached. It was asked that the card with the pledge amount be included in each box of pledge envelopes.

Investment
Committee: No report.

Treasurer: Mike Stevens reported that the budget is mostly in line. Only the current pledge line is low and will be reviewed by Norm to see what the status of pledges is. Mike will work on why the water and sewer bill is higher for the rectory than the church. He has also investigated recycling pickup.

Property: John Turtle reported on property. New storm doors are in or coming and a new window in the living room has been installed. Radiator repairs on the 2nd floor are planned. Painting of the kitchen is getting close to being done. A new ceramic tile floor will be installed in the kitchen with donated time.

There is a new lock on the back door near the nursery school. Denise is concerned with people coming in the back door. We will be putting a video camera and peep hole on front door for Denise. Paul will get it done.

Cracked storm windows in the church have been replaced. Heat is still an issue. Do we have a maintenance contract? There is a question on when to fix the price of oil. It will be done soon. The organ pipes have been repaired.

Major repairs under consideration:

Heating system: \$72,000 and \$74,000

Sprinkler system church: \$105,000 & \$60,000 for rest of building.

The total is approximately \$200k for capital improvements which include the proposed sound system for the sanctuary.

There was discussion on how and when to present plans to the parish. We will try and get more information for a vote at the November meeting.

Interim Priest
& Staff:

Staff meetings are going well.

Youth &
 Christian Ed: Kitty reported for Isabel. She will be using Godly Play for Sunday School. A wish list of items is attached. The amount is just over \$3,000 for needed items. One idea is to put a Godly Play “registry” on the web site. Some people have already been contacted to help. The theme for the Nov 8th children’s Eucharist is gratitude. On November 7th Cradles to Crayons will be using St. Mary’s as the final drop off for items collected. The Christmas pageant will be December 20 at the 10 am service. The 5pm service on the 24th will be lessons & carols.

Outreach: Elisabeth Comer handed out a list of organizations proposed to receive outreach funds in December. There was discussion about the “other” \$1,000. A vote will be taken in November.

Women of
 St. Mary’s: November 21st is the date for Foods & Fancies. Ann Igoe is the co-chair with Maryjane Burgess.

Tenants: Paul talked to Dick Sabin about negotiation on the new lease on Dick’s return in November. There will be no increase in rent for 2010, the final year of the lease. Paul has been in touch with the director about the back door locks.

Churchyard: The big tree at far end of the cemetery is dying and will be coming down.

Worship: No report.

Altar Guild: There are two new members.

Hospitality: No report

Music: Kitty reported for Kirsten. Organ repairs cost \$680 which will be paid for by memorial funds for Bruce Mossman. She decided to get an annual contract for service for the organ for \$900/year. Thanks to Paul for recording the Peter Lea Cox music. There will be an Evensong service on November 8th evensong followed by a soup and bread supper. Maryjane Burgess will assist Isabel Phillips in the organizing.

Deanery: No report.

St. Mary’s
 Historian: No report.

Margaret concluded with a prayer.

The next Vestry meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 17, 2009 at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Farnell, Clerk