

MINUTES OF THE VESTRY
ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
September 12, 2010
Adams Room

Present:

Clergy: Paul Roberts Abernathy, Rector,
Susan Pinkerton, Associate Rector

Wardens: Kenn Allen, Senior Warden
John Sedgewick, Junior Warden

Vestry Members: Joe Calizo, Ed Corr, Bill Dickinson, Rick Hayes, Cecilia Monahan,
Marilu Sherer, Vicki Street, Susan Thompson, Mary Lee Watts -
Vestry Member

Register: Raiford Gaffney

Absent: Treasurer: Kathryn Powers

1. Paul Abernathy, Rector and Chair of the Vestry, called the meeting of St. Mark's Vestry to order at 1:15 pm on September 12, 2010 in St. Mark's Adams Room.

2. Rick Hayes gave the opening prayer.

3. **Annual Canvass.** Co-Chair Bill Dickinson (Co-Chair Erika Lehman was unable to attend) discussed the current plans for the 2010 Canvass. Paul said that a successful canvass for him is that we make individual pledge decisions in a faithful manner rather than a goal of making our budget. Kenn noted that every year that vestry play a leadership role by getting their pledge in early and are responsive to requests for help from Bill and Erika. Susan Pinkerton said that the canvass this year is only five weeks – short and intensive. Paul requested that each vestry member and officer send brief statements – 30-50 words or whatever we are moved to share – directly to Erika and Bill.

4. Officer Reports

a. Register - *Presentation of the July 28 Minutes.* Marilu Sherer moved to approve the minutes, Bill Dickinson seconded and the minutes were approved. *(Copy of the minutes is attached).*

b. Treasurer's Report – Kenn Allen distributed the report for Kathryn Powers. The vestry suggested that perhaps some financial data, such as the daily cost to operate St. Mark's, pledge contributions received to-date, etc. be included in the weekly bulletin. Bill Dickinson moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted, Marilu Sherer seconded, and the motion passed. *(Copy of the report is attached.)*

c. Junior Warden's Report – John Sedgewick reported that the new Shelter Project bathroom is complete. The final cost was \$20, 000 and has been completely covered by donations. Susan Pinkerton said that a number of churches on the Hill have been broken into as well as the St. Mark's Dance Studio. Keys are not being turned in when they are no longer needed. Rick Hayes noted that many people who use St. Mark's space do not lockup when they are through. Paul said that security must come from leadership. The Vestry will discuss security in more detail at a future meeting.

d. Senior Warden's Report – Kenn said that Stephanie Deutsch submitted a report on Shelter Project, which he will forward to the vestry. Kenn passed on Burton Reist's reminder about Vestry Greeter responsibilities for handing out bulletins at the tower door, taking up the collection, meeting newcomers and visitors at the welcome table following the service and putting the vestry cart back in vesting area after the 11:15 service. Susan Thompson said she would distribute the vestry greeter rules that have been developed by the Membership Development Committee.

e. Rector's Report on Human Resources - Paul noted the two new staff members; Rebecca Richards, Parish Administrator for Programs and Facilities and Jeff Kempkie, Director of Music. He gave thanks to music search committee for their labor and results as well as the choir who rehearsed four weeks during the summer when the applicants were at St. Mark's and started on time this fall.

5. **Liaison Reports.** Paul encouraged the entire vestry to read the liaison reports prior to the meeting and bring up any questions at vestry meetings. Vestry liaison reports are due to Raiford at least ten days before each meeting so they can be collated and distributed prior to the meeting. Marilu Sherer proposed that the vestry greeter welcome newcomers prior to the Peace so that members can then greet them during the peace. This will require a conversation about the place in the liturgy; Susan Pinkerton will put the item on the worship committee agenda. Marilu will draft a descriptive statement to Susan Pinkerton for the Worship Planning Team. It was noted that Arts still needs another pillar co-chair as does Parish Life. Kenn said that he would set up a schedule for each Pillar to visit a vestry meeting. *(copy of the report is attached)*

6. Updates

a. Website – the new website is great and there is web training for updaters. Send comments, suggestions, or questions to Kristen Harke.

b. Capital Campaign Process - Kenn reported seven things going on and the earliest money request would be in the spring of 2011.

1. case statement under development –Mike Townsend
2. revised cost estimated – Ed Corr
3. open letter to parish in mid-Sept – Paul Abernathy and Kenn Allen
4. reaching out to top 10 givers for their opinion/feedback
5. September 26 - discuss the capital campaign plans at sermon seminar and pub lunch
6. the personal interview section will be done Oct 8, 9, 10. 32 people will be interviewed
7. written surveys to the rest of parish around October 10 - Doris Burton

After the surveys are completed, the EC Foundation will look at them, then the Vestry will discuss at the November Vestry retreat. A new cost estimate sheet was distributed by Ed Corr *(attached)*.

Vicki Street gave a special thanks to Ed Corr, the Steering Committee, Kenn Allen, Paul Abernathy, and John Sedgewick for their hard work and leadership.

c. Mite Box Fundraising Report was accepted. (*copy of the report is attached*)

7. **Executive Session.** An Executive Session was held to discuss Paul Abernathy's request for a new letter of agreement. John Sedgewick moved that Paul Abernathy and Kenn Allen secure process consultant to assist in developing a new letter of agreement and position description for Paul Abernathy. Marilu Sherer seconded the motion and it passed. Paul and Kenn will inform the vestry of the costs and process.

8. **What's New; What Needs Attention? What's Working? Who needs Acknowledgment?**

Susan Thompson reported that four choir members have said that they cannot hear the sermon from the Chancel. Susan T. will talk to Jan Lipscomb, Loretta Veney and Charlie Rupp about the Chancel speakers. Bill Dickinson noted that the Diocese is sponsoring a church management and administration seminar in September. Vicki Street recommended that the vestry acknowledge Christian Co-Directors Penny Farley, Katherine Loevinger, Will Long, and Bobbi Smith for the outstanding Christian Ed Schedule for 2010-11. Vicki will write the note.

9. **Motion to Adjourn** - Mary Lee Watts moved and John Sedgewick seconded to adjourn. It carried at 4:20 pm.

10. **Closing Prayer** – Vicki Street gave the closing prayer.