

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE VESTRY OF ST. ANDREW'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH, DENVER, CO, HELD MARCH 1, 2011

Present were Judie James, Richard DeTar, Liz Evans, Elizabeth Randall, Susan Trickett, Peter Thulson, Jim Anthony, Lynn Hardcastle, Rich Rinehart, Janice Burley, Shelley Brown, George Magnuson, Steve Medema, Elizabeth "Wib" Garfield, Steve Grupe, Tim Krueger, and Sue Torfin.

The meeting began at 6:35 p.m.

Elizabeth introduced "Wib" Garfield, our new deacon, one of the first seven people to complete a revised diaconate process. The Bishop is "looking for an edgier diaconate." She engages with communities beyond the church, such as Sacred Heart House and the Delores Project (women's shelters). The wait time for housing in Denver is two years. It was also noted that the number of children here is growing. Deacons are expected to be "in the world" and are always in two communities. How should we introduce her to the Parish? There will be a special e-ministry.

Shelley, for the Ministry Collaboration Team: We now have a booklet called the "Guide to Resources and Ministries." We also have Wikis and are using them to build an online community. Shelley demonstrated with a laptop and projector how the Wiki process works. A question was raised by Steve Medema regarding possible junk mail being generated as a result of the Wiki process. Some ministries have already begun using the Wiki. She showed us what some have done with it. Steve Medema raised a question regarding the use of children's photographs. The Ministry Collaboration Team will spend some time at its meetings divided into "affinity groups" of related ministries.

Susan Trickett reported on "urban gardens" and the parking lots. Let's plant a fledgling "community garden" in the four raised concrete boxes in the parking lot. People walking by could pick them. The Urban Land Conservancy has given its blessing to this. Liz moved and Sue seconded that we do this. It was unanimously approved. We shall commission this ministry to be done this coming growing season.

Steve Grupe moved, Lynn seconded, and it was unanimously approved to accept the minutes of the February meeting with one correction. Judie suggested the minutes should read not that technically the church belongs to the Bishop, but rather that "it was said that technically the church belongs to the Bishop." Elizabeth stated that this change is alright with her. It was duly made.

Richard stated that copies of all Vestry minutes have been found and are filed in the Parish house back through March of 2006.

We next took care of the annual approval of the housing allowances of the clergy for tax purposes. George's is \$1025 a month. Elizabeth's is \$4000 a month. Judie moved this, Janice seconded it, and it was unanimously approved.

We adopted the Parish by-laws as revised last Fall. Steve Medema moved this, Liz Evans seconded, and they were approved unanimously. There was discussion of the process. Did everyone receive the final revision? The by-laws will be posted on the Parish website, as will the Articles of Incorporation.

It was resolved that we shall buy a dutch door for the nursery room in the rear of the Parish house, to be installed between that room and the classroom next to it. This is needed so the door can be closed for sound and open for visibility (security) of the children. Money for this can be moved from the Keeping the Faith fund. This was moved by Steve Medema, seconded by Sue, and unanimously approve.

Sacred Vision, Sacred Path: We need to retire \$405,000 of our indebtedness to get it down to \$550,000 by this coming June. We need \$71,000 more to be able to do this. The principal method suggested for doing this is more of the parishioner loans some of which we have already done through the Colorado Episcopal Foundation. Rich discussed the results of a recent meeting on this matter which involved both members of the Vestry and non-members. The CEF prefers the minimum loan from a person or pledging unit to be \$5000 for relative ease of administration. Judie suggested discussing the possibility of a loan from the Endowment Trust with the Endowment Committee. The New Endowment Committee has apparently not met as yet. Interest on these loans would be 4%.

The next matter taken up was scheduling future events. Regarding the August or September retreat, there was discussion of when people can and cannot do this. It is looking like this event will be held, probably, August 19<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup>.

The Diocesan Convention will be in Grand Junction.

Junior Warden's report: It would be good to have a volunteer concerned about undercroft acoustics and damping down the reverberation of sound in that area to help figure out a solution for this problem. Susan Trickett volunteered.

Treasurer's report: Only music is over budget. We're behind expectations at this point regarding unpledged income (by \$14,000?). Some of this, of course, is because some unpledged income has now become pledged income. We don't know, however, why unpledged income is so low just now.

Elizabeth asked if we can now consent to the appointment by the Bishop of "Wib" Garfield as our deacon. The Vestry unanimously consented to this appointment.

The Parochial Report: It is only two days late. We'll all receive it by e-mail, and we'll either approve of it or not via the same medium. The signers of it are to be Elizabeth, Rich, and Richard. The report shows "modest growth from last year." Our numbers dropped from 2008 to 2009 due to the culling process conducted by the Rector and the Parish Administrator. We now have 266 members.

We deferred discussion of the format for Vestry meetings.

We adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Vestry Clerk