

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting
March 15, 2006

Attendees: Rector Connie Delzell, Deacon Sally Brown, Senior Warden Rick Larson, Junior Warden Cyn Croasdaile, Jennifer Barker, Christy Cisneros, Jonathan Colder, Greg Geissler, Mike Kornelsen, Maryann O'Brien. (taking minutes).

Absent: Mary Buck, Roger Kilgore, Nicola Donovan

Guests: Martha Bollenbacher.

The meeting opened with prayer led by Rick.

The minutes from the February 15, 2006, Vestry meeting were approved as circulated.

Agenda Item 1: Martha Bollenbacher, chair of the Endowment Committee, discussed the Endowment Committee Report. The vestry affirmed the new allocations. A distribution needs to be made in June. Part of this distribution is for outreach and must be taken out annually.

Agenda Item 2: Fundraising

Jennifer Barker, of the Ad Hoc Fund Raising Committee, reported on that committee's work. We have to decide how to spend the Vogelsang Grant since it is not necessarily about outreach this year.

Someone asked why, if the \$25,000 for the Historical Society Matching Grant, \$25,000 for the Vogelsang Matching Grant, and \$10,000 for the Organ Fund were met, any remaining money would be split one-third, one-third, and one-third. If the first two were met, why not give all the rest to the Organ Fund since it could be used to complete the organ. Someone pointed out that this \$10,000 was a "supplement" to the organ campaign, not the whole campaign.

We would honor a designated gift even though this is a unified campaign. There are many questions still unclear as to the organ part of the campaign: is the 6% interest for the loan from Buzard included in the amount needed to be raised?

Could the Organ Committee get a 6% loan from another lender without involving the church? What would the monthly payment be? What about those who need to pay off their organ pledges over three years? How would this affect the "one-year" unified campaign? How much money has been committed and how much will come from outside the parish? It was felt that we needed more information before the vestry could vote on the organ proposal and its possible inclusion in our Unified Campaign. Rick Larson and Mike Kornelson will meet with members of the organ committee and the unified campaign committee to clarify these questions before our next vestry meeting.

If we want to roll out our campaign around Eastertide, the next vestry meeting comes too late. We voted to move the **April Vestry meeting up to Wednesday, April 5th**.

We discussed whether we should leave the focus of the Vogelsang Grant open and perhaps make the letter available to the congregation so people could think about how best to spend the money. We would say, however, that the grant would have an outward focus– that it would be used for mission, not maintenance. The focus would be on ministry initiatives outside these walls.

Agenda Item 3: Sacred Vision/Sacred Space

Rick announced that several people were invited to be on the committee. He has the names. He has heard a lot of positive feedback, and the first meeting will be held March 19th.

Agenda Item 4: Evangelism

George Magnuson volunteered to be part of the Evangelism Committee. There is a Congregational Development Institute (CDI) program that would be very helpful. The diocese is putting on the program soon, but it is expensive. Mother Connie reported that she and George are getting together some names of possible members (8 to 10) of the Evangelism Committee.

Various ways to make newcomers welcome and reaching our neighbors were discussed, such as putting an insert into the bulletin about the use of the Book of Common Prayer, putting flyers on apartment house bulletin boards, putting out the sandwich board to announce concerts, etc. We should give our ideas to Mother Connie who will pass them on to the Evangelism Committee.

Agenda Item 5: Fair Trade Coffee

We are not buying Fair Trade Coffee now because of the difficulty of picking it up, etc. If we are committed to using this kind of coffee, then the Outreach Committee will check on prices, delivery charges, and the possibility of adding decaffeinated coffee and get back to the Vestry with their findings.

Rector's Report (Mother Connie)

Mother Connie reported that we need to find a way to make sure that money that people leave us in their estate actually gets to us. We may need to take legal advice.

Deacon's Report (Mother Sally)

Mother Sally talked about the Outreach Sundays and Prayer Cards. The deacons met with the Bishop and one topic was whether deacons needed to attend vestry meetings. He said that they did because their role is to pull the vestry and the church out into the world. The Bishop also encouraged all Episcopalians to support the Balanced Immigration Bills and to work for justice for immigrants.

Senior Warden's Report (Rick)

Rich reported that he signed contracts with the Historical Society for our grants.

Junior Warden's Report (Cyn)

Cyn will meet with the people working on overseeing work to the church from the Historical Grant. She asked for the Vestry's approval to get started since we have some money earmarked for that purpose from the Endowment. It was moved and seconded that we start the next phase, which involves the windows. The motion passed unanimously. Cyn also said that we would now save \$20 a month on our Qwest phone bill.

Treasurer's Report (Mark)

Kathy Fleming has agreed to take over as our new treasurer. Mark passed out handouts of the treasurer's report and went over them.

We are now caught up with our Diocesan and Regional pledges and we have paid our vestry consultant.

Mark said that there was an "immediate crisis" because, even though we started out the year with a \$15,000 surplus, that is all gone and we are now \$11,000 in debt. This is largely owing to people getting behind in their pledges and to large insurance bills that need to be paid quarterly. We could take money out of the Capital Campaign to cover the deficit of the payroll checks, but we need long term solutions and policies. It was moved and seconded that we take \$11,000 out of the Capital Campaign this time, the money to be repaid by April 30th. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. The Finance Committee will meet and come up with long-term solutions to this problem. They will report to the vestry as soon as possible.

We need an appeal to ask for people to keep up with or increase their pledges, and an opportunity for those who haven't pledged to do so. Jennifer and Cyn volunteered to make announcements during services on March 19th and March 26th.

The meeting adjourned before 9:00. Everyone thanked Rick for putting times next to the agenda items and sticking with them. Closing prayer was led by Maryann.

N. B. The next Vestry meeting has been moved ahead to Wednesday, April 5th.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Maryann O'Brien