

St. Aidan's Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes
Thursday, September 4, 7 PM

Attendees: Rob Wood, Keith Oglesby, Cathy Schlecht, Bobbe Frank, David Freeman, Betsy Jones, Jim Smith, Bob French, Richard Schuetze, Beth Burns, Blair Hendrickson, Jim Skinner, Jim Myers(Treasurer),Debby Flynn (clerk) , Finance Committee : JoAnne Schuetze, Brad Sherff, Cathy Biondi. Absent: Gregory Smith, Clark Miller

7 PM, Vestry Only- Vestry Nominations led by Sr. and Jr. Warden

7:30 Vestry and Finance Committee

Opening remarks from Fr. Rob, who appreciates all the hard work of the finance committee and recommend that they attend a Vestry meeting a couple of times a year.

1. Staffing and salary update
 - Changes in the youth program- handout outlining salaries and how it fits into the budget.
 - 2008 raises were discussed and given, all per budgeted funds.
2. Audit- was done this year by the Finance committee, but will have to be done next year by an accounting service due to the size of the budget as required by the Diocese. The estimated cost to have these done ranges between \$6,000-12,000. This future expense needs to be added to the 2009 budget.
3. Finance Committee recommendations from August
 - a. Recommendation to vestry: out of budget; fund flow in and fund flow out with EYC expenditures has addressed and will be monitored.
 - b. Finance committee recommends that the Vestry take a detailed look at the restricted accounts for the purpose of re-allocating any undesignated funds, and what could be allocated to other priorities of the church. (see #4 below)
 - c. Finance committee recommends that before the cottage is refurbished and monies spent that the cost benefit analysis be done.
4. Short review of restricted funds-
 - Memorial gifts- \$ 10,136 + add'l \$5,000 designated solely for cottage.
 - Memorial Garden- \$0
 - Bequests- \$3,500
 - Breakfast-\$5,113
 - Attic Sale- \$1,000
 - Ruth Jennings - \$865

The only funds available for the projects in mind are the Memorial gifts restricted funds.

5. St Aidan's Needs and Priorities-

- a. Choir risers
- b. Cottage repair
- c. Memorial Garden
- d. Staffing
- e. Youth ministry
- f. Other
- g. Playground enhancement

Discussion concerning these needs, ranked the above to include just top five. Top five in no particular order are

1. Cottage repair- need cost analysis to fix or decide to tear down
2. Youth Staffing- put \$ toward enhancement of staffing, time commitment, would have to reserve \$ to be able to continue in 2009.

3. Choir risers- Need to obtain a more recent quote; last one was between \$4,000-\$5,000. Plans need to be detailed to determine if the project could be done in stages. The vestry requests a plan A, B and C in terms of price and scope.
4. Memorial garden- needs continuous funding for seasonal updates.
5. Playground expansion.

After discussion on the above 5 options Vestry and Finance committee ranked their top three priorities. Top three priorities to concentrate time and funding are as follows:

- 1) Staffing
- 2) Cottage
- 3) Risers

A motion was made at the completion of the Stewardship campaign the budget will be re-evaluated to see additional staffing can be paid for out of the 2009 budget. At this time take \$2,136 from the Memorial gift restricted funds and coupled with the \$5,000 gift for the cottage brings the total to \$7,136 to fix as much of the cottage that is allowable, earmark the balance of the Memorial gift restricted fund (\$8,000) to go toward staffing needs. Before any money is spent on cottage information on the entire project will be estimated and reviewed. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

In the meantime get the costs for the risers so that can be worked in future plans, Bobbe Frank will head up this project.

6. Lee Home Update

- Jim Skinner reported the Lee home has been appraised for \$240,000 and the Lee's have indicated they have an offer for \$450,000. Things have changed and they are not sure they are ready to move yet. They will tell us in a week or two if they are still intending to move.

7. Budget for 2009

- The finance committee is preparing the 2009 budget with a 5% increase. There are a few areas that have known increases.
 - a. Diocesan Pledge
 - b. Audit cost
 - c. Interest payments

This stewardship campaign is going to be very crucial. August contributions were up; we plan for 30% of our contributions in Oct, Nov and Dec.

- LHTC collections are OK; the reserve has dropped below \$100,000.
- The outreach line in the budget Fr. Rob would like to increase 10% over 2008.
- First plate offering currently going to outreach may have to go back to being put in the discretionary fund.

8. Financial Aid for David Wagner-

- We currently have budgeted \$500.00 for seminary support. A motion was made to contribute the \$500 Directly to David Wagner (former Youth Director at St. Aidan's) for his use as he is currently attending seminary. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Dates to Remember-

Next Vestry Meeting Thursday September 18 7PM
 Attic Sale, Fall Festival and Chili Cook Off October 11th
 Parish Retreat to Camp Mikall October 24-26
 Meeting concluded with a prayer led by Fr. Rob

Respectfully submitted by Debby Flynn, Clerk