

St. Aidan's Vestry Meeting August 16, 2005, 7:00 PM

Attendees:

Rob Wood	Pete Sansom	Elwyn Alexander
Becky Sullivan	Sue Lawton	Jim Myers
Mary Kathryn Nix	Joe Moyer	Scott DeArmey
Theo Manos	Patrice Skinner	

1. Opening Prayer/Devotion: Pete
2. Approval of agenda – unanimous approval
3. Approval of July minutes – unanimous approval
4. Ministry to highlight in discussion: Outreach
 - a. Patrice presented what she and Carol have been discussing for outreach. She gave a handout listing the programs being revitalized and expanded. Habitat for Humanity, Towel Train, NF Community Charities, Forsyth Co. Family Haven are all being expanded or revitalized. New activities include the Drake house and the parish blood drive. Document also lists their ideas for increasing visibility to outreach activities such as hosting Wed. night suppers with a speaker and adding information to the website.
5. Finance Report (handout)
 - a. July 2005 and YTD finance report. Budget looks good. Unanimous approval of finance report.
 - b. Budget priorities for 2006:

Budget Item	Votes
Playground - 1	2
Organ – 4	5
Flooring for nave - 1	2
Memorial Garden	1
Landscaping - 1	2
Church signage	1
Choir robes	1
Habitat house	1
Increase support of Episcopal Relief and Development	1
Increase support of missions	1
Involving new comers - 2	3
EYC – 1	2
Adult Education	1
Enhance church appearance, inside sanctuary - 4	5
Outreach to military	1
New vessels, candelabras, liturgical metalwork.	1
Fellowship – more fun stuff with parish - 1	2
10% of budget to outreach	1

- c. Bank loan status – Nothing done on it at this point. Need to focus on it. The people at the bank need to be contacted to move forward. The bank will custom make the type of loan we want. We just need to compare rates.

6. Sr. Warden's Report
 - a. BF2 update – Campaign is just starting. Will be 2 months long. Approaching people that have already given to get involved in the campaign. Approaching people that have not given to make a pledge. Dinners, phone calls, some face to face visits. Approach is to have 2 main dinners at parishioners' homes to start with, these are in August. Nine other dinners at parishioners' homes will follow from the participants from these first dinners, these are in September.
7. Jr. Warden's Report
 - a. Grass planted out front. Clean up of the great hall. Pete is doing a great job on buildings and grounds.
8. Rector's Report
 - a. Youth minister & budget
 - i. Welcome David Wagner as our part-time youth minister.
 - ii. Handouts of job description and David's biography
 - iii. Meet and greet with parents and EYC kids and David. Plan to do this on Sunday Sept 11, maybe 5-7.
 - iv. David starts on Sept. 11 teaching Sunday School, helping with Children's chapel and leading jr. and Sr. EYC.
 - v. Starts with youth on August 28 at pool parties. Planning and staff work begins August 22.
 - vi. He is also looking into an EYC retreat to Mikell in Oct or Nov.
 - vii. Financing proposal:
 1. \$2990 is budgeted for youth minister already
 2. \$430 from Search committee expense that is unused
 3. \$400 from extra clergy line
 4. \$500 from VBS that was unused
 5. \$1000 from youth ministry program to staffing (relying on donations from families for food, etc.)
 6. \$500 from Inreach for this year only; rector's discretionary can cover needs.
 7. Total: \$5, 280 of the roughly \$ 6,600 needed for the rest of 2005.
We will monitor giving to see if it would make up the rest of the \$780. If not, we will make more adjustments.
 - viii. Memorial garden update – Joan and Dolly still leaning towards the triangular area in the front for location. Man from somewhere came to discuss location, major negative was what would happen when that house and land is sold. Need to check this out before we decide on that area. If we could buy the land, we could move the road to go around the memorial garden. We would work on getting a right of first refusal for buying that land. Scott asked why not the other area down at the end of the parking lot. The man says the triangle area is good because it is close to the place of worship. Scott is worried we would not be able to afford the land once it came up for sale. All agree we should look into the size of the land and how to get a first right of refusal.
 - ix. Diocesan study on same-sex blessings – from Rob's email. Diocesan council mandated the study. Seems to be to prepare the diocese for any decision made at 2006 general convention. Question about what the email meant about "... the diverse theological meanings of marriage in the Church."... Rob would consult with the vestry and discuss before St. Aidan's starts blessing same-sex unions. Concern that this will cause division again in the church. Rob promotes unity in the church, allow disagreements. We shouldn't bury our heads in the sand, but St. Aidan's would be allowed to manage our own future.

We should balance the energy spent on this issue with all the other good things we want to do.

- x. Mutual Joy - Rob is doing a marriage enrichment workshop in the fall. On Wednesday nights, starting Sept 14. Helping people keep God and faith in their marriage.
- xi. "Preacher, Priest, and Rabbi" – Discussion group Rob is a part of along with Rev. Joe Clifford (Alpharetta Presbyterian), and Rabbi Ron Herstik (Congregation Dor Tamid). Will be at Village Veranda. First to discuss the book "The Life of Pi", Tues. Sept. 6th, at 7PM
- xii. Gospel of John study – on Wednesday nights, Nov, Dec., Jan, and Feb.
- xiii. Met with Tom Price and group he invited. Info on faith-based initiatives of the president and what churches can do.
- xiv. Rob has been doing lots of pre-marital counseling.
- xv. Have the healing services been good on Sunday? We have had 2. Sue says having it during communion worked very well. Elwyn heard good feedback on it, thought the first one went well. Scott had the concern that some people would prefer after church for more privacy. Sue commented that because of activities after church, it isn't really as private after church.

9. New Business

- a. Newcomer's dinner, Sept. 18th

10. Old Business

- a. Change counting process. Update from Theo and Scott. We just need to get the group of volunteers for Monday and we can start this.
- b. Ministry Open House going well. Check your displays for next couple of weeks.

11. Action steps review

- a. Bring your calendars next meeting to plan vestry retreat and annual meeting.
- b. Sue and Becky come up with a description of Parish Life for the web site.
- c. Theo - description for newcomer's for web site.
- d. Elwyn – worship overview for website.
- e. Mark – youth information for website.
- f. Scott, Theo, Rob need to meet and get the new counting process going.
- g. Scott and Sue work on a timeline for getting nominations for the new vestry members.
- h. Need to schedule the picture taking. Patrice will talk to Jim about scheduling.

Dates to Remember

- Next Vestry Meeting: September 20th, 7 p.m.
- BF Dinners Aug 21 & 27
- Newcomer's dinner, Sept. 18, Becky, Elwyn, and Joe mentioned that they could come and help.
- Oct. 2, Sundaes Sunday: A BF Celebration
- Oct. 4, Blessing of the animals