

St. Aidan's Vestry Meeting September 20 2005, 7:00 PM

Attendees:

Rob Wood
Becky Sullivan
Mary Kathryn Nix
Pete Sansom

Joe Moyer
Patrice Skinner
Elwyn Alexander
Jim Myers

Scott DeArmey
Mark Thompson

1. Opening Prayer/Devotion: Elwyn (Theo In October)
2. Approval of agenda – unanimous approval
3. Approval of August minutes (emailed) – unanimous approval
4. Ministry to highlight in discussion: Start-up in Fall (JAM numbers)
 - a. Lots more kids. Lee will need more volunteers to handle another class. May need to separate the 4th and 5th grades into 2 classes.
 - b. Attendance for Sunday 81 at 8 203 at 10:30, last year 51 and 173, 63 and 164 (2003) 75 and 282 (2002).
 - c. Keep in mind to get help when needed. Ask Rob if you need names of people who could help.
 - d. What could we be doing better? Elwyn suggested keeping the noise level down in Burtenshaw Hall during the Sunday school hour (Fr. Rob's class)
5. Finance Report (handout)
 - a. Report emailed by Bob Sheffield. Minor change coming because a BF pledge was counted as regular pledge and will be moved. Expenses are running less than budgeted. Looking ahead to 2006, office hours need to be balanced some between Betsey and Karen. Rob is doing stuff that they should do, but just seems the easiest right now.
 - b. Should other parishioners have knowledge about the pledge amounts of other parishioners? Consensus is no. Only church officers. A staff person needs to be in charge of ACS, then give access as needed. Need to clean out basement room at church so all records can be stored there.
 - c. Bank loan status – We have an initial quote from Main Street, not too favorable. We will probably shop the loan.
 - d. Diocesan giving and Canon 20 – a report from clergy council.
Recommendation from the Diocesan task force: we need to revise canon 20 to make it mandatory that churches give 10% to the diocese. The voluntary giving is not working. Under the proposed canon, a church can meet with the Fair Share Review board to discuss the church's need to give less than 10%.
 - e. Called Vestry/Finance meeting in October – needed to discuss finances only. Discuss loan, capital campaign, etc. Meet Oct. 10th, 7PM.
6. Sr. Warden's Report
 - a. BF2 update – Have had 4 household dinners. No pledge cards received yet. Disappointed in the number of call backs about attending the dinners. RSVPs on the invitations did not work, so tried personal calls, but no one calls back to say they are coming. Dinners have been good.
 - b. Letter from Camp Mikell, from Ken Struble. Very nice kudos to Rob about his time at the Junior camp this past summer.

- c. Lisa Meyer has resigned from the vestry. We could elect someone to complete her term or just elect 5 people at the election time. One person would be to fill her position. Check with Patrice and Sue about serving one more year for a 3yr term to fill Lisa's position. Scott motioned that Rob talk to them both. Motion was seconded and all agreed.
7. Jr. Warden's Report
- a. Served 155 at breakfast on Sunday.
8. Rector's Report
- a. Fr. Rob is going to Mississippi to help with the cleanup. Several clergy going. Fr. Rob will be gone for a week. Monday Sept. 26 through Sunday Oct. 1. Anyone who wants to help can come at a later time.
 - b. Crown ministry – Saturday seminar: Journey to Financial Freedom. It will deal with the issues of saving and spending, managing debt, budgeting. Oct. 22 8:30-4pm. Lunch provided, \$20 a person.
 - c. PPR2 - October 25, 7PM. Location TBD. *The Chosen* by Chaim Potak is the subject.
9. New Business
- a. Building use policy – Joe distributed the policy for our review. Tentative approval of it until next vestry meeting. Jim moved, Mark seconded, and all approved. We can all review and approve officially at the next meeting. Jim says we should include an alcohol use policy with this. Jim has some examples he will bring to the next meeting.
 - b. Any comments, concerns, other things? Mark mentioned the issue after church in the hall where several groups were bumping into each other. Fr. Rob said it was also discussed at staff meeting, how to improve.
 - c. Annual Parish Meeting and vestry retreat: Set dates. Annual Meeting 9:15am Dec. 11, 2005. Vestry retreat – Potential dates 1/13-1/15 or 1/20-1/21. Look into Camp Mikell.
10. Old Business
- a. Counters Procedures: first two Mondays; a check-in. Need to streamline the part of the process on Sunday. Two alter guild/usher witnesses to money being zipped in bag and locked in the safe. Then count on Monday.
11. Action steps review
- a. Becky, and office staff will work on getting the downstairs room cleaned out.
 - b. Please update your section in the newcomer's package.
 - c. Pete to check kitchen back door to make sure it closes.
 - d. Fr. Rob will call Camp Mikell to check availability for the retreat.

Dates to Remember

- Next Vestry Meeting: October 18th, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 2, Sundae Sunday: A BF Celebration. After the church service.
- Oct. 4, Blessing of the animals

Respectively submitted, Mary Kathryn Nix

Elwyn's Devotion

Brother David Strindle-Rast writes that gratefulness is the heart of prayer –

I am grateful for the difference a year has made in the life of St. Aidan's. It is just over a year ago we dedicated the new building, now it has a name, Burtenshaw Hall. It is a busy, bustling space and you don't know how we ever managed without it. The men's breakfast teams bring men together who would have never met. Fr. Rob's class afterwards has been a huge success.

A trip down the stairs tells one that the Sunday school class rooms and the nursery are happy places for the children, looking at their faces tells it all.

Newcomers are welcomed and all seem very eager to participate fully in the life of St. Aidan's. Even old faces have returned and have been welcomed back. Jr. EYC and Sr. EYC are having a great time. How wonderful that the office move has enabled the gift of the cottage to the youth for "their home".

This time last year the search committee handed over the vestry [the slate of candidates] and we prayerfully made our decision whom to call to lead us. I am grateful to our lord he led Father Rob to us and that he accepted our call to become our priest. What a joyous year he has given us.