St. Aidan's Episcopal Church

Vestry Minutes

Thursday, October 13, 2011

Present were:

Clergy: Rob Wood & Rebekah Hatch

Vestry: Jane Simmons, Joe Rich, Don Frank, Carolyn Glaza, Harmony Kiser, Terry Ledford, Cathy Biondi, Vicki Scott, David Ford & Linda Bowman

Also: Bob Murphy

Absent: Joey Sargent & Andrea Manos

Opening Prayer and Devotion: Don Frank opened the meeting with opening prayer and devotion at 7:02 PM.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes: Carolyn motioned and Harmony seconded approval of the Agenda and the minutes. They were both passed unanimously.

Pledges from Vestry and Stewardship Update

Pledge cards are going out next week. The in gathering will be on the 23rd. Rob wants them in from vestry by the 19th, so he can say the vestry has done 100%. He will talk about it each Sunday so that by the 20th of Nov we can have a good idea of where we are so we can do the budget. Andrea is having people speak and have people flanking them to show that they are branches.

Fall Festival - Review and Future Plans

Cathy reported that we made $300 more this year than last year. Turnout wasn't as big this year and we need to think about whether we do it again next year. Carolyn mentioned that there is a tremendous amount of work involved in putting it together with a small return. However, it was mentioned that the main focus of the festival is fellowship and not to be a big fundraiser.

Joe asked if we shouldn't get another church or two to join in. Rebekah said that it probably wouldn't happen. Maybe we could just go to a park for some fellowship one day.

After some discussion about how it fits in with all other activities, the parish life committee was charged with looking at the calendar and determining what we do and when.

Finance Report:

- **Treasurer's Report:**
    - No report yet
- **2010 Audit Report – To be approved**
    - Terry said there were some incorrect numbers and he got a revised copy. However since no one else had the revised copy, discussion was tabled.
- **Proposal on 2011 Cash reserves, budget changes and restricted account reallocations memo from 4th of the month**
    - Took a look at the budget and found some places where we could trim. Rob stated that there needs to be a sign off by a vestry person and a committee member for expenses. This needs to happen so that the budget can stay under control. This is also important for the budgeting for the next year.
    - Rob doesn't feel pressed right now. He said we can wait for the financials and if we get close, we at least have an idea of where we can cut if need be. One place we cannot touch is outreach. That money needs to be spent. However, as to the rest of this year's budget, it is not use it or lose it. He urged the vestry member not to spend money just to do it.
    - Rob asked for a recommendation from Cathy's pod for a recommendation for what to do with the proceeds from fall festival.
    - Cathy stated that Hospitality wants to have a reception for Susan on the 23rd. She also thinks that a reception after Lessons and Carols would be in order.
    - 2012 budget – Terry gave a report on the initial discussions in the Finance Committee about next year's budget. They took revenue forecast based on where we are now and projection for year-end 2011 and grew them a little bit. That will get trued up when pledges come in – probably will be lower than this year which is lower than last. Many expenses are static. The lower numbers for refinanced mortgage are in there. After all was

done, it appeared that there may a $17k deficit to start. The budget is generally finalized at the vestry retreat in January once all pledges have been turned in and we know the expenses.

Junior Warden's Report:

The vestry was chose the slate of 8 candidates to be called to see if they would accept being on the vestry if selected.

Senior Warden's Report:

All of the items on the Senior Warden's report were covered earlier, Fall Festival, Budget Planning, Expenses and the questionnaire concerning the mortgage refinance.

Assistant to the Rector's Report:

No report

Rector's Report:

- We have hired a children's minister. She will shadow Susan at first and then start solo on the 24th. The pre-school's board is discussing going to 5 day Pre K. Rob has asked for a 3 year plan.
    - Clergy conference - 2 things that came out of the conference – First - If there were to be a liturgy for same gender unions what would it look like. There will be a proposal this year. It will be for states that it is legal. They heard about such a service but no one got to see it. Second – There was discussion about size and scope of national church. There was a telling illustration using a triangle saying what goes up and the rules come down. One of the proposals is to downsize the size of the national church.
- Rob wants to be a Styrofoam free campus and is having a few people look at that.

New Business:

- Vestry retreat 2012 – Cottages are reserved for $75 per person for lodging. It is $170 for the weekend per person for the lodge This is at Unicoi.
- Planning for the Parish Meeting November 20 – Ideas about what should be discussed
    - Discuss how St. Aidan's changed their life
    - Service times

- Number of events we try to hold.
- Need to talk about recycling as a parish
- What is one way to improve our common life
- What could we do that we are not
- Would you help with your answer to the last question
- What one way could you help St. Aidan's this year
- Vestry selection
- Do you feel like you are being asked for money too often

Old Business:

- **Hopewell Mission plans -** They have a lot of kids this year and are asking us to do 2 classes - either concurrent or one after the other. Each vestry person could take a month and then recruit for help. Joe and Linda volunteered for any Friday in October. Vicki and Terry volunteered for November and David and Jane volunteered for December
- **Meetings for 2011:** 11/17, 12/15

Action Steps Review:

Closing: Rob closed the meeting with a prayer at 9:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Bob Murphy

Vestry Clerk