

Vestry Minutes (2/19/08)

The vestry was called to order at 6:40 PM on February 19, 2008, there being a quorum present. Attending the meeting were Rev. Scott Benhase, the Senior Warden, Kate Bouve, the Jr. Warden, Jim Sottile, Vestry members; Sam Lewis, Bill Edgar, Mark Shima, Kammie Hedges, Nathalie Branson, Dani Kaufman, Jon Sawyer, Keith Jones, Marc Fetterman and Bob Woolfolk; Diocesan Delegate Bill Hall; special Rep. Bob Smith; WSA president, Mary Jane Shackelford;

The first order of business was the report by Bill Hall and Bob Smith regarding the covenant between Cathedral congregation (CC) and St. Albans. It is in its 4th draft and a meeting next month will tie down the agreement, which both parties will sign. Ruth Cline's history of St. Albans was a big help in providing background on the history between the Cathedral and St. Albans. Steve Huber, the vicar of the Cathedral, said that the CC has five purposes:

1. Ground the ministry of the Cathedral
2. Used as evidence for new Christian community
3. Seek the un-churched
4. Help long term worshipers at Cathedral
5. Feeder congregation for local parishes.

The covenant committee is working on following items:

1. Formation of a standing committee; two members from St. Albans and two members from CC. Committee will work on boundary conditions and joint programs.
2. Dean and staff to keep St. Albans informed of activities that may impact our congregations. Dean and our rector to meet periodically.
3. Communication will be very important and we want to impress dean and CC the importance of keeping St. Albans informed and of our interest in working on joint programs. Our Communications director to be in contact with theirs.

The treasurer's report was presented. Questions were directed to large item in parish expenses, including an annual contract for office machines maintenance. January ended with surplus of \$ 60K, a good thing. The audit for 2005 is done. Audits for 2006 and 2007 are not complete and treasurer, Chris Holmes, will see if the audits can be combined for cost savings. A new contract is due for audits and we may look for new firm that may be cheaper.

Jon Sawyer moved that Treasure's report be accepted and Mark Shima seconded. The motion passed

There was a final EMP report that is included in the attached documents. This is the basis for final budget. It also has information regarding follow-up call made during January.

Kammie Hedges gave a report on the outreach commission meeting that was very thorough. It included a detail of all of St. Albans outreach activities and the effort of the outreach commission to reconcile these various activities. Basically there are five sources of funding. These are pledge, fund raising, mustard seed, WSA and Transformation Fund. Members of the committee include representatives of the major funder and fundees. (See report for details)

The report was accepted after being move by Nathalie Branson and seconded by Sam Lewis

The Junior Warden report was presented by Jim Sottile. It concerned the Stone House Report. Stone House reviewed the other building at St. Albans and reported that over the next ten years we may have to spend \$1.5M on repairs and upgrades to Satterly Hall and rectory buildings. The HVAC system is in dire distress and may need major repairs soon (\$675K). Jim as asked for more details in the final report, which is due the vestry in March.

Employee hand book is coming along and will be presented to the vestry in March in draft form for review.

Senior Warden Report as filed was accepted by vestry after motion by M. Shima and second by N. Branson. Items covered were Mutual Ministry Review follow-up, amendments to by-laws for election of Wardens and hiring assistant clergy, and the upcoming parish planning retreat.

The vestry went into executive session to discuss the budget as it had implication for staff positions. A final budget was approved by the vestry after much discussion regarding funding and positions to be eliminated. The budget was published in late February as approved. Sam Lewis moved and Mark Shima seconded the adoption motion.

The rest of the Rectors report covered the following items: Cuba trip developed by George Keys and Libby Dirkson. St. Albans has been approved by the Department of State to go to Cuba in June. Travelers will have to pay their own way. A Cuban priest will attend St. Albans at Pentecost.

Erin Hensely's ordination will be June 22 or 29 here at St. Albans.

We have a summer intern, Benjamin Huelskamp, who will be funded by the Lilly Foundation. He is from the University of the South.

Salon St. Albans will start April 12 at the Westchester sponsored by Joan Brainard and Amanda Holbart. Martin Smith will be first guest. The salon will consist of Sunday lunch and discussion.

Lenten Intergenerational program on forgiveness will begin February 28 and last three sessions.

Finally, Scott and Tim Boggs will attend the Endowed Parishes Consortium meeting in St. Louis this week.

Due to the latest of the hour the vestry quickly went through old business; The nominating committee for next vestry and delegate election will report at March vestry meeting on nominations; no progress on handicap ramp; no report on arts and memorials and signage is still be discussed.

Compline was said and the meeting adjourned. Next vestry meeting March 18, 2008

Submitted by Bob woolfolk