

# VESTRY MEETING MINUTES

August 3, 2006

**Attendees:** Fr. Mike Billingsley, Jay Jacobson, Ruth Warner, Sue Ramsley, Dianne Belamarich, Peter Dittman, Ralph Edwards, John Diercks

**Absent:** Chris Estey, Gretchen Carr, Phil Robidoux

## VESTRY BUSINESS

- 1) **Opening Prayer** – Fr. Mike led the Vestry in opening prayer.
- 2) **June 6, 2006 Meeting Minutes** – Voted on and approved, as amended, by the Vestry. Voted (7 yes votes, 3 no replies) via email to pass:
  - Increase funds to be spent on septic repair by \$350 (above the previously approved \$3,100) to cover all of the work specified in the latest estimate
  - Allow Ida to install a wood sign in the grass strip by the parking lot.
  - Amend Fr. Mike's letter of agreement amendment to increase allowance from 1 week to 2 weeks for professional education.
- 3) **Eagle Scout Project** – Slate delivered and partially installed. Ruth spoke with Lori Robak about getting HopNews to do a piece on the labyrinth
- 4) **Tri-Parish Meeting Report** – Vestry needs to complete a survey. Fr. Mike will be meeting, for lunch, with Alice Mann and the ministers of Christ Church Medway and St. Paul's Millis (will bring our completed surveys with him).
- 5) **Safe Church Training** – Reviewed the safe church requirements (attached).  
On the technology front – John has found a digital projector for approx. \$1,000. He will investigate it to see if it can suit our needs.
- 6) **Reports**
  - a) **Sunday School** – Welcome back Sunday, September 10. Information and letter has gone out to anyone with a child in the system to recruit teachers and assistants. Halloween Party set for October 28, 2006.
  - b) **Property** –
    - Ida called early one morning...she had a leak in the ceiling. Ruth and Jim found the problem, to be the ice-maker hose from the fridge upstairs, and made the necessary repair to the copper hose and will complete the repair to the ceiling.
    - Septic work to start tomorrow. The electrical piece will be done in August before the preschool opens.
    - Misc. lighting repairs. Have purchased and will install new light in the boiler room.
    - Painting is coming along very well.
  - c) **Hospitality** – This Sunday there will be an ice cream social. Volunteers are needed for hosting regular coffee hours and for helping at a special breakfast for welcome back Sunday.
  - d) **Financial Report** – Received notices from the town for the water bill and one from GE (copier contract) stating they hadn't rec'd their payments. Phil is out of the country... We need to address the problem of not being able to cut checks when he is not available. Vestry voted and approved adding the Wardens as signers on the checking account. Mary Arnaut will be able to make out checks awaiting signature.
  - e) **Communications** – Phil talked to the town. They said we could put the signs up where ever we want them.

- f) **Outreach** – Collecting juice for the food pantry Sunday, August 13. Blessing of the animals is set for October 1.
  - g) **Fund Raisers** – We’ve registered for Polyarts, which is to be held September 30. Rummage Sale scheduled for October 14, 2006. Gift baskets/Nativity display tentatively scheduled for December 9, 2006 – pending approval from Kate and Lori who run the Nativity display.
  - h) **Stewardship** – nothing new to report.
  - i) **Father Mike’s Report**
    - July numbers are way up compared to July 2005. Average attendance in July 2005 was 19.8 and July 2006 was 38.2.
    - In September we will be asked to look at the broader options for St. Paul’s regarding the Tri-Parish Work. How can we collaborate... What resources do we have that we can share with the other churches in our group? Could we partner with the Millis church in their AIDS work. Could we do something with the Senior center in addition to the food pantry collections we’re doing? What would the impact be of partnering with the other churches?
- 7) **Old Business**
- Davison Welch is “painting up a storm” in the kitchen.
  - Volunteers are needed to paint the hall-way and the parish hall.
  - What to do with the Digital Hymnal. Phil checked the prices on ebay and discovered we can’t get nearly what we paid for it. The vestry agreed that the couple of upcoming Sunday’s that Carol is not available, services will be “said” without music.
  - Phil gave Jay the insurance policy to review. John is willing to audit the policy.
  - Vote by email...see Jay’s notes
- 8) **New Business** – Can no longer get paper towels for our old Paper towel holders in the bathrooms. Need to come up with another solution. Need to review the facility rental rates.
- 9) **Next vestry meetings** Thursday, September 7, 2006 (Note the new day of the week)
- 10) **Closing prayer** – Fr. Mike led the Vestry in closing prayer and the meeting adjourned.