

## VESTRY MEETING

November 7, 2007

**Attendees:** Ruth Warner, Steve Pelletier, Jay Jacobson, Gretchen Carr, Sue Ramsley, Phil Robidoux, Peter Dittman, John Diercks, Mary Arnaut

**Absent:** Fr. Mike Billingsley, Dianne Belamarich

### VESTRY BUSINESS

1. Opening Prayer – Sue Ramsley led in opening prayer
2. 10/3/07 vestry meeting minutes unanimously approved with abstentions of absentee members
3. Eagle Scout Project Update:
  - Matt Dry (Jay) – Jay spoke with Dave Dry; there won't be anything to report until spring when Matt will come to another vestry meeting prior to starting work
  - Nick Dittman (Peter) – Peter tells us that vestry needs to sign an approval form for both Matt and Nick. Nick needs to return to the vestry in December with a concrete proposal of the upper limit of the project cost; Nick is thinking that there might only be enough money to do the front walk way
4. GUMC Signage Update (Jay) – Jay spoke with Dave Dry. GUMC has engaged a sign company and should have a proposal within a week. GUMC is willing to stabilize the St. Paul's sign and/or move the St. Paul's sign as needed as part of their project. They are eager to have their sign up by the end of the year.
5. 2008 Vestry Nominating Committee Update (Committee) – Steve Pelletier is willing to become Sr. Warden. Ruth reports that she has contacted several people re: vestry service; she has only heard back from one person, and the response was negative. Fr. Mike will be speaking with a parishioner re: becoming treasurer.
6. Collaboration Work:
  - Report of Collaboration Clergy Team (Jay) – in Fr. Mike's absence we received an overview from Sue re: meeting highlights and that collaboration committee was in favor of Mike remaining in the Shepherd role.
  - Vestry review & comment on Collaborative Covenant (Vestry) – See attached notes re: the Covenant of the Hopkinton/Medway Collaborative Ministry.
7. Reports:
  - Sunday School (Jay/Ruth) – Dianne has been working in the nursery; things are going well with the Sunday School
  - Property (Ruth) –
    - Ruth has sent Mohamed a note stating that his request to rent two Sunday School rooms on Saturday mornings from 9:30-12:30 until June has been approved; they will pay weekly but have not made a final decision whether or not they will even do this.
    - Email from Lori Robak re: Enter Stage Left renting the church hall Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>; this date is taken; Ruth will check with Lori re: another date.
    - On the day of the rummage sale, John Mayhew came, grabbed Mary Chase on her arm, and caused a mild injury. A letter has been written by Jay Jacobson and sent by registered mail to his parent/guardian (cc: Hopkinton Police) stating that John Mayhew is no longer allowed on the property of St. Paul's Episcopal Church.
    - NSTAR has sent the church a letter offering a fixed price contract for gas through April, 2008. After discussion, the vestry has decided not to take this offer.
    - Ruth received a note from Ida asking for light bulb replacement. Ruth and Jim replaced 10 light bulbs and purchased 10 more for further replacement, spending about \$90.

- Property will review waste management services costs and see if there is a better deal out there.
  - Hospitality (Gretchen) – brunches are going well; next one is this Sunday. People have been signing up for coffee hour. Gretchen has been purchasing supplies for the kitchen; Jay states that Dave Dry has told him that they will participate in the cost. Mary will figure out the average monthly cost; Jay will discuss with Dave the idea of splitting this cost 2/3 St. Paul's and 1/3 GUMC.
  - Financial/Budget (Phil) – Monthly Update, Review of Proposed 2008 Budget (Phil/Mary) – Current status: Pledges are being paid pretty much as anticipated. Gas & Electric bills have been quite low; ministry expenses have increased, which is a wonderful thing. John, Jay, Steve and Mary met with Fr. Mike to review the 2008 budget; stewardship pledge goal is about \$2500 more than last year (\$57,000). Re: 2008 proposed budget, St. Paul's contribution to the HMCN will be about 60% of rectors' salary and expenses (Fr. Mike plus Fr. David Johnston). Sexton salary has been increased. There are new line items for various ministries. If the HMCN did not exist, this 2008 proposed budget would be \$148,953 instead of \$134,221, a savings of \$14,732, and we would not be funding new ministry items.
  - Communications Grant Report (Jay) – deferred
  - Outreach/Fund Raisers (Ruth) – Project Just Because will give Ruth 50 names for the Giving Tree for Nov 18<sup>th</sup>. Gifts will be returned on Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Planning Nativity Display on Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>; a basket table, white elephant craft table and a bake table will be available. Ruth received a letter from the Red Cross asking if St. Paul's is willing to do another blood drive next Memorial Day.
  - Stewardship (John/Steve) – Campaign has begun; Steve wrote a stewardship letter and has sent it to the church office. This will be emailed to the congregation from the church office. John will provide more printed copies of the flyer to be available this Sunday. Stewardship Sunday is this Sunday, Nov 11<sup>th</sup>.
  - Safe Church (Jay) – deferred
  - GUMC General Update (Jay) – Dave Dry has mentioned that GUMC is willing/available/eager to help with fall clean-up, etc. Jay will ask Dave to schedule a clean-up day and St. Paul's parishioners will attend.
8. Old Business:
- Community Outreach – Health Insurance Info session (Mary) – Joanne Amico was here on Sat Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>. Only one person attended.
  - Have the 3 Episcopal church signs been put in place? No, not yet; waiting for spring.
9. New Business – None
10. Next vestry meeting Wed., 12/5/07, 7:00 PM
11. Closing prayer and adjournment – Sue lead the vestry in a closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Sue Ramsley in Dianne's absence.