



JULY VESTRY MEETING

**Tuesday, July 27, 2010
Conference Room, 6:00-9:00 p.m.**

Vestry Members Present

Phil Haas, Sr. Warden
Janet McCully, Jr. Warden
Randy Revelle, Jr. Warden
Scott Smallwood
Bob Kirkman
Marge Anderson
Stacy Andersen
Dale Ramerman
Erik Anderson
Joan Anthony, Bishop's Rep
Nancy Jacobs
Roger Valdez

Vestry Members Absent

Patty Baker
Katie Bishop
Bishop Greg Rickel

Staff Members Present

Rev. Rebecca McClain, Canon Missioner
Liz Sloat, Vestry Support
Rev. David Mesenbring
Brian Fairbanks

Guests

Melissa Skelton, Alissa Newton, and
Stephen Crippen, diocesan consultants

Keith Moore, Hisako Beasley,
Walter Stuteville, Diane Stevens,
Jean Leed, Elsie Ford, Pat Taylor

Officers Present

John Hoerster, Chancellor
Jonathan Nicholas, Treasurer
Virginia Lenker, Clerk

Call to Order and Spiritual Reflection

Rebecca called the meeting to order and offered an opening prayer. She welcomed guests and asked the Vestry to introduce themselves to the diocesan consultant team.

Bishop's Transition Process – *Melissa Skelton, Canon for Congregational Development*

As discussed in previous meetings, the bishop has asked Melissa to continue the process of strengthening the health of Saint Mark's congregational culture, in preparation for calling a new Dean. Other goals include

- increased awareness of healthy and unhealthy patterns of behavior,
- reinvigorated relationship between the Bishop and the congregation,
- greater transparency,
- development of trust.

Vestry members agreed with Melissa that the Vestry must be supportive of the process, and accountable to the congregation. The consultants and internal team will meet Sept – Dec 2010, with time to reflect on the work in Jan 2011. The process of creating a profile is projected to start in March 2011. Melissa noted that this timeline may need to be flexible as things come up. The costs would include \$5000 for consultant's time and materials needed by internal team. The Bishop and the Cathedral will share those expenses, at \$2500 each. Melissa also suggested that five parishioners enroll at the College of Congregational Development during 2011, at a cost of \$2100. The entire cost of this phase of the process is estimated at \$7100. After discussion about several items in the agreement, Vestry members suggested names of parishioners who are active in the life of the Cathedral to form the internal team.

A motion was made to authorize the Vestry wardens to sign an agreement consistent with tonight's presentation and discussion. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Melissa will make revisions and send the updated agreement to Vestry members within the week. There was consensus on the importance of going ahead with the process, rather than waiting until next month for approval.

The Vestry went into Executive Session to discuss updates on St. Nicholas leases with John Hoerster, Cathedral Chancellor.

Resignation of Terry Brandon

Rebecca announced the resignation of Terry Brandon from the Vestry. A motion was made and passed instructing Rebecca to send Terry a letter of thanks for his 2 ½ years of service. The Vestry and Canon Missioner decided to leave the slot vacant for the remainder of his term, which expires at the Annual Meeting in January 2011. Janet agreed to fill Terry's slot on the Foundation Board for the remaining meetings in 2010 (September and November). Resignation letters from Dennis and Terry will be included in the official Vestry files. Terry's resignation also leaves the Chair of Faith Formation and Congregational Life Committee vacant. Rebecca noted that this committee has not been very active yet, and will find someone to fill the seat.

Action Items

The Vestry accepted the Consent Agenda consisting of the following:

- Approval of Minutes June 22 Vestry meeting
- Receipt of Reports/Notes/Minutes of Meetings of Vestry Committees
 - Stewardship 6/10, 6/24
 - Governance 7/20

Committee Reports and Updates

Buildings and Hospitality – Erik Anderson

Resurfacing of the St. Nicholas playground is complete, and under budget.

Faith Formation and Congregational Life - Rebecca McClain

The committee is working on plans for fall Christian education and faith formation. The next Pastoral Care Summit will be Aug. 22 after the 11:00 service, and open to those who are not yet involved. Rebecca noted that there has been a lot of discussion about Sunday service times balanced with time for fellowship and adult and youth faith formation. Cathedral staff recommended moving the 11 a.m. service to 11:15 a.m. Several vestry members and Rebecca noted the difficulties of changing service times at the best of times. After much discussion, the Vestry decided against changing service times during the transition process.

Church in the World (CIW) – Marge Anderson

The leader of Blue Nile Children's Organization Ministry Initiative (Selamawit Kifle) is moving back to Ethiopia soon. The CIW coordinating committee is discussing how to proceed. The Clean Greens project got off to a late start due to weather, but is going well now.

Diocesan Relations—Nancy Jacobs, chair

Nancy noted Liz showed her the large display board used for the Cathedral's booth at diocesan convention—which is Fri. Oct 29-Sat. Oct. 30, at the SeaTac Hilton. Nancy and Phil encouraged Vestry members to attend convention and staff the booth. She will bring a sign-up sheet to a future Vestry meeting.

Stewardship – Randy Revelle, chair

Randy noted the importance of increasing the pledge base in order to meet the goal set by the Finance Committee. The Stewardship Committee is contacting a list of people who are actively involved in a Cathedral ministry (ushers, etc) but do not pledge. Roger has agreed to co-chair the Annual Campaign, along with Greg Simon (Stewardship Committee co-chair) and Rebecca. Randy encouraged Vestry members to attend upcoming Gratitude Gatherings. Next month, Randy will bring a written plan of Annual Campaign 2011 for Vestry to approve.

Finance Committee – Bob Kirkman, chair

The committee met with the investment manager and is updating the investment policy, which Bob will bring to next Vestry meeting. Bob and Jonathan reported on the operating fund thru 6/30/10. Actual compensation and fixed expenses are as budgeted, and revenue is a little better than budgeted. Unfortunately, variable expenses are approximately \$50K above budget. Bob said that he and Jonathan were continuing to work with Deborah to assess accounting for variable expenses. He noted that the upcoming budget will be even more difficult as \$150K in current gifts and grants will expire at the end of 2010.

Sunday Morning Attendance Statistics

Rebecca noted that year-to-year attendance is tracking well, and 9:00 attendance is a little bit up. Last Sunday's attendance increased over the previous week. 8:00 attendance is consistent—over many decades.

Foundation Board

Jean Leed, board chair, reported that the foundation decided to keep the focus of its endowments on supporting the Cathedral's buildings and grounds.

Closing Prayer and Adjournment

Stacy read a prayer from the New Zealand prayer book. The meeting adjourned at 9 pm.

The next meeting is Tues. August 24 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Room, Diocesan House.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Lenker
Recording Secretary and Clerk

Liz Sloat
Vestry Support