

St. David's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting

March 27, 2007

Members present: Teddi McIntosh (Junior Warden), Charlie Gwynn, Steve Cunningham, Fr. Todd Dill (Assistant to the Rector), Rob Hungerford, Chris Burpo (Steward), Vicki Connelly (Treasurer), Fr. Paul Winton (Rector), Bill Sleeper, Jill Sutton, Andy Eberhard, Connie DeSanto, Gail Greene

Members absent: Roger Mathis and Jim Landers

We a social time between the budget meeting of the 2006 Vestry and the regular meeting of the 2007 Vestry.

Fr. Paul opened the meeting with a prayer at 8:00 pm. A quorum was present.

1. Fr. Paul started the meeting with a review of the budget meeting. The budget was distributed to the new members. If there are questions they can ask Father Paul directly or discuss at the March meeting.

Senior Warden's Report

2. Steve Cunningham has been working on revising the By-laws of the Vestry. He has solicited the help of Betty Cunningham since she was on the Vestry that incorporated the by-laws we are now using.

Junior Warden's Report

3. Fire doors with windows between the halls downstairs have been discussed. Also, we are looking at changing the priests' doors so they also have some sort of window. At this time, we are looking in to prices. The purpose of the change for the downstairs doors is the ability to see children on the other side. It is a safety issue having the doors closed. It is a safety code violation to prop them open. Also, it is more inviting to have a window than a closed door to a new member.
4. I have called the church insurance company to make sure all accounts are up to date and to check on procedures. The packaged property insurance and the excess crimes package have both been paid for this year. In July the workers compensation insurance is due and in September the umbrella account and additional accident insurance is due. We also have international insurance to cover the Honduras trip. The only cost increase at this time was a small percentage to keep up with inflation.
5. Upkeep is always a challenge and at this time we have had a termite swarm. The swarm was treated but we are looking into the cost of a centricon system for a more permanent solution.
6. Update on the Security System – In talking with Becky, it seems most of the bugs have been worked out and the keys seem to be working better. However, she does have several concerns. There are too many doors unlocked during the day especially the ones not visible from the office area. Also, since the doors are run by computer, if someone schedules a meeting the doors automatically unlock about 10 minutes before and remain unlock until about 10 minutes after the schedule time. This works well since Becky is not always here during the meeting times. The problem is when meetings are canceled. Becky goes by the church calendar. So if a meeting is scheduled and she is not notified the building is unlocked for a period of time when no one is here.

Rector's Report

7. Follow-up to Vestry Retreat – The liaison's responsibility is to communicate monthly with your ministry heads and to talk about them at least quarterly at the Vestry meeting.
8. Ministry assignments were made and will follow at the end of these minutes.
9. Father Paul would like to incorporate a social ½ hour into our meetings as a time to get to know each other better.
10. Liaison reports for April will be made by Chris, Andy, and ?.
11. "The House" subcommittee was reactivated with Rob Hungerford and Teddi McIntosh being the members. The challenge is to decide what the best use of the house is and to report back in 60 days (May meeting).
12. Father Paul will complete the basic groundwork on funding for Julio Lema. According to canonical law he is required to have the minimum salary and pensions. That is \$42,000ish plus pensions. The options at this time are
 - a. Get the balance from the National church
 - b. Get the balance from a consortium of surrounding parishes to share salary and Julio's work
 - c. In house fund raising
13. Father Paul has been asked by Bishop Alexander to on a mission trip from about June 11th to the 22nd in Tanganyika, Africa. The purpose is to see what is going there and to possibly go back sometime in the fall for 3 to 4 weeks to teach. He has invited Judy Beecham as the layperson to travel with him. Father Paul will also travel to Honduras with Father Ogier to look at that ministry.
14. Summer schedule will include the same number of services with some change in times.
15. Pay attention to the upcoming key dates:
 - a. April 15 First Communion Sunday
 - b. April 29 Bishop visit and Confirmation
 - c. April 29 4:30 Children's Musical
 - d. May 14 Marietta Convocation Clericus
 - e. May 20 Celebration Sunday
 - f. May 27 Pentecost Sunday – baptisms and parish picnic
16. Exploratory Committee on "St. David's Academy" K-8 Take this serious put don't panic. The committee will be made up of Vestry members and preschool. See if there would be acceptance in the area but will not be on church campus. Is financially viable? It will be an unapologetically religious school. The preschool will stay at St. David's Church. Possible locations could be King's Ridge School present location or North Fulton Charities present location. Chris Couch, Gail Greene, Jill Sutton, and Connie DeSanto will serve for the Vestry.
17. Michaelmas Term – Adult Christian Education for the Fall term Focus on becoming a tithing church with an intentional focus knowing that the process will take 3-5 years. Typical giving of parishioners is less than 3% (less than a car payment). The purpose of the class will be to

seed change. Start with educating people then modeling for them. The hope by the end will be to say 85% of the church is tithing. Prayer and volunteerism have increased but tithing seems to be the part that is missing. The theology will have to be straight. Needs to be external and from someone who has walked the walk. It will be loving but interesting. The discussion that followed included:

- Ask for money in a non-threatening way
 - Some may feel money given to other organizations should be included in tithe
 - Parishioners may have questions about how money is going to be used.
 - Timing is important
 - Teach about stewardship
 - How material is presented and the mindset of people will be important
 - Basic education of stewardship is needed
 - It is not mine- the rest will take care of itself
 - There may be misconceptions of actual wealth
 - It is important where a family is at a certain moment
 - Priorities can be discussed
 - One criticism might be Priests are always asking for money (hope to reach a point where you no longer have to talk about it – just accepted)
 - Needs a cultural change designed carefully, slowly, and methodically.
 - Tithing was not discussed with confirmands
 - Not to fix the problem is negligent
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- NEXT Step: Father Paul needs to set the vision and decide if he wants to spend the next three years on it. There is at least one parishioner who is an advocate of this. Is there a way to identify others? Andy Eberhard, Chris Burpo, and Bill Sleeper will commit to meet the week after Easter with Father Paul. Andy is to come up with names who are supportive, Chris is to come up canned programs or resources, and Bill is to research successful churches and have 2 or 3 examples.
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- This discussion was opened by Father Paul be intentional about giving time to discuss—how can we make sure this happens with others? AGREE to the phrase: Can we spend some time to talk about this? For a matter of importance

18. The clerk position will be discussed more at the next meeting due to the lateness of this meeting. Jill Sutton and Father Todd will work with Steve Cunningham to outline the duties of the clerk with someone with no voice to record the minutes. First reading of this part of the by-laws will be at the April meeting. Clerk is part of the Executive committee which is made up of the Rector, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Clerk, and Chairman of the Finance Committee. They can make expenditure decisions on behalf of the Vestry and will report at the next meeting if meet. They are the Officers of the Cooperation.

19. Open Questions/Ideas:

- a. Mentor for Confirmands
- b. Capital Campaign \$ (Is it possible)
 - i. Make a booklet of parishioners who have businesses where if a parishioner uses one of the services listed that person will donate 10% of the money to the church building?
 - ii. Make a calendar for sale?

Treasurer's Report

20. Vicki Connelly stated that the church is behind in pledges from last year and spending is up. Bill Sleeper and Steve Cunningham will decide a format (additional columns for better comparisons) for the treasurer's reporting then Steve will let Vicki know.
21. A motion to approve the treasure's report was seconded and passed.
22. Bill Sleeper will report on finances of the new building until groundbreaking. After groundbreaking, Vicki will report.

Executive Committee

23. Jeffords Hall – The executive committee met with Jan Georges and Lance Patterson for a Jeffords Hall update on March 26th. Pledges are at \$2.2 million with \$1.4 million of that from the quiet campaign. This is aligned with the predictions of the consulting firm. Since this is a long way from \$7 million we had 3 options
- a. Get \$7 million
 - b. Put the plans on the shelf
 - c. Scale back and build the parish and 4 classrooms to replace the cottages

Committee decided to scale back and build the parish hall, which means we still need to raise a total of \$4-5 million dollars. But this is doable. Go back to those who have pledged and ask the 114 pledges what can you give \$800-\$1000 more if spread over 4 years, solicit the 400 pledging units that haven't done anything, and meet quietly with those who prefer direct conversation.

Jan Georges and Father Paul met with the architects on March 27th to present new information and to get thoughts. The architect group said they could build only the parish hall and the bell tower and change the current bridge. Roughing out the full basement and finish the front space with the 4 classrooms. We will have a firm price after Easter but it will include a roughed in basement, 4 finished classrooms, and the parish hall. It will be totally freestanding so there are changes to the electrical and restrooms. It will take 8-9 months to build instead of 11.

The motion for the Vestry is:

The Vestry gives authorization to authorize then vendors to proceed to complete the design and drawings of the building and bridge for the Parish Hall project as redefined with the intent to build that building.

The motion was passed unanimously.

The go ahead will given to start permitting based on the length of time some permits take.

If questions are asked:

We are moving ahead cautiously

We still need to raise \$5 million

Updated information will be sent out

Father Paul will meet with the Jeffords Hall people to update their information. There was a suggestion made to have another commitment Sunday after the new information is given out. The difference for us is in building for the future and building for yesterday.

Liaison Reports

24. Vestry members made their liaison reports by email prior to the meeting. There was no discussion about those reports. Beginning in April several reports will be made orally.

New Business

25. Endowment Board – Mark Conard was elected to a 3 year term

26. February Minutes were unanimously approved.

27. Easter Service VPOD coverage

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| a. Saturday | 11:00AM | Andy |
| b. Saturday | 8:00 PM | Gail |
| c. Sunday | 6:30 AM | Teddi |
| d. Sunday | 7:30 AM | Teddi |
| e. Sunday | 9:15 AM | Jill |
| f. Sunday | 11:00 AM | Rob |
| g. Sunday | 2:00 PM | Bill |

Fr. Paul closed the meeting with prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Teddi McIntosh
Interim Clerk of the Vestry