

VESTRY MEETING MINUTES
SUNDAY APRIL 19, 2015

Vestry Members present:

Fr. Anthony MacWhinnie
Chuck Barnett, Sr. Warden
Linda Aligood
Susan Early
Ann Philen

Viv Welch, Clerk/Communications
Connie Chamberlin, ECW

Vestry Members absent:

Dan Ferguson – proxy by email
Frank Murphy
John Velaski

Others Present

I. Opening:

Father Anthony opened the meeting with a prayer at 11:40 am.

II. Review of Minutes:

- A. Chuck Barnett moved that the March 2015 minutes be approved. Ann Philen seconded. Motion carried.
- B. April 2014 Minutes still pending.

III. Treasurer's Report:

- A. Linda Aligood distributed the January/February/March 2015 financial report.
- B. Revenue for March 2015 was \$8,633.00 and expenses were \$15,253.18.
- C. Linda Aligood suggested that the vestry might consider paying the church liability insurance premium monthly instead of quarterly.
- D. The “mini pledge drive” has resulted in an additional \$7,335 in pledges thus far.
- E. Chuck Barnett moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented. Linda Aligood seconded. Motion carried.

IV. Senior Warden's Report

- A. Chuck Barnett reported that he is serving on the Diocesan Small Church Commission and attended a meeting earlier this week.
- B. Chuck told the Commission that St. Monica's will host the Small Church Conference in November.
- C. Various grants are available for small churches. The applications for these grants are due in November/December. This prompted some discussion about St. Monica's financial situation and the rules for the memorial garden. It was suggested that someone from the vestry write an article for the newsletter about the memorial garden. (Chuck said he would ask Beth.)

V. Junior Warden's Report

- A. Dan was off-shore, but sent his report by email:
 - i. Presently the electrical work for the signs, AC outlets in Narthex are on hold for monetary reasons.
 - ii. When I come home on May 5th, I will be home for 9 weeks. While I am home for this period, I would like to take care of the janitorial duties that we are overpaying for, in my opinion (Molly Maids or whoever it is). After two

months of doing this, I will be able to better report on what needs to be addressed for future needs of regular cleaning of the church.

- iii. During the Band of Brothers on April 25th, I will need to shut off the water to the church, check and maybe replace the water supply valve for the coffee pot sink and repair the leaking faucet at the sink.
 - iv. During my off time I will be working on the tractor garage, cleaning it out.
 - v. I move that we cancel the monthly cleaning service and allow me (Dan) to do the cleaning instead. "It is my opinion that paying for this service is not necessary and can be done in house. The amount of traffic in the church does not warrant the use of outside service. If we have the right tools (for) the task it can be done with little effort."
 - vi. It might be a good idea for the Vestry to discuss the possibility of getting an equity loan on the mortgage for 150-200K to help get the thrift shop off the ground and move forward. You have my yes vote.
- B.** The vestry discussed the cleaning contract and the history behind it citing lack of volunteerism and other issues as the reason for committing to the contract. The vestry appreciated Dan's offer, but was concerned that Dan might experience more fatigue than he is expecting and wouldn't be able to do the cleaning as he hopes. The motion expired without a second.
- C.** The vestry discussed the possibility of getting an equity loan on the mortgage, but concluded that an equity loan is for improvements to the property and therefore could not be used to open a thrift store on rental property. They did however agree to pursue the possibility of a loan to perhaps build something on the property, perhaps even a building for a thrift store or for multiple purposes.

VI. Rector's Report

- A.** Attendance is still up.
- B.** The Thrift Store Committee met last week with Dr. Gray, who has a 60-year history with starting thrift stores for Waterfront Mission and other organizations. He provided them with valuable information to continue their work.

VII. Old Business

- A.** Church Directory & Call Tree Update: Viv Welch reported that member information sheets have been turned in and the committee can now move forward with creating the directory.

VIII. New Business

- A.** New Web Site Design and migration – Viv Welch.
 - i. Our current web site has been hosted for free since 2008 by Episcopal Church Web Hosting Service and we pay only for our domain name (www.st-monicas.org) on Dragon Netwurx.
 - ii. Viv received an email stating that Dragon Netwurx has been bought by A2 Hosting and that the ECWH program will be discontinued. A2 Hosting has offered to migrate our current site from Dragon Netwurx to their site at no cost if we chose to be hosted by them. The cost of hosting our web site be \$239.76 every 2 years with a 51% discount on the first billing cycle, making the initial

purchase \$122.27 for the first two years. In addition, all non-profits will receive a 20% recurring discount.

- iii. Currently the website updating process is done by inserting code and is cumbersome. With A2 Hosting, the new web site can be designed and updated using the Word Press, “what you see is what you get” content management system.
 - iv. Viv created a new web site design using Word Press on a virtual server and presented it to the vestry.
 - v. Susan Early moved that St. Monica’s web site be migrated to A2 Hosting and the Word Press format for a cost of \$122.27 for the first two years and an estimated \$191.84 every billing cycle thereafter. Linda Aligood seconded. Motion carried.
- B.** St. Monica’s Day will be May 3. The ECW will purchase fried chicken for the event.
- C.** Chuck suggested that we replace the Holy Week banner with a generic one.
- i. Viv Welch will design a banner and send it to the vestry for approval.
- D.** ECW Yard Sale – Saturday, May 2.
- i. Susan Early reported that not many items have been donated for the yard sale.
 - ii. The ECW will wait to see if any donations come in this week and decide on Saturday, April 25 whether to have the yard sale or cancel it
 - iii. Viv Welch will send out a Constant Contact email blast asking for yard sale donations and other events happening in the next two weeks.

IX. Closing/Adjournment

- A.** Father Anthony closed the meeting at 1:40 pm with prayer.