

## **VESTRY MEETING MINUTES SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2015**

### **Vestry Members present:**

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

John Velaski

### **Others Present**

Viv Welch, Clerk/Communications  
Brenda Ferguson, Church Secretary

### **Vestry Members absent:**

Frank Murphy

### **I. Opening:**

Father Anthony opened the meeting at 11:50 am with a prayer.

### **II. Review of Minutes:**

- A. John Velaski moved that the August 2015 minutes be approved. Ann Philen seconded the motion. Motion carried
- B. April 2014 Minutes still pending.

### **III. Senior Warden's Report:**

#### **A. Small Church Conference:**

- i. Met with the Small Church Commission last week.
  - a. Deadline to register for Small Church Conference is October 16.
  - b. Chuck will check with Lynn Farren to determine what is customary for registering volunteers/participants of the host church.
  - c. The Bishop emphasized Vitality, Viability and The 12 Marks of Care
  - d. Chuck relayed a story the Bishop told from his church in Birmingham when they partnered with the local Fire Department to determine the needs of the community. This is called Asset Based Community Development.
  - e. Chuck mentioned that the commission would like to have the entire conference videotaped. Viv Welch will look into the cost of a video camera (under \$200). Ann mentioned that the cost could possibly be covered from the memorial fund.
  - f. The topics to be covered at the Small Church Conference will be Worship, Discipleship and Pastoral Care under the umbrella of Empowerment.
  - g. There will be additional vendors this year.
  - h. Ann Philen volunteered to assist with late registration.
  - i. Brenda Ferguson reported on what she learned from Cox Communications regarding WiFi in the church.
    - i. She received a quote of \$99, but it is unclear whether that is additional or includes the service we already have and whether that is a monthly fee.
    - ii. Brenda will call them again on Monday (Sept. 14) to clarify.

### **IV. Junior Warden's Report:**

- A. The ceiling tile in the choir loft was completely saturated with water and falling down.
- B. Dan will install a new ceiling fan in the meeting room of Thee House.

- C. Dodie Matlock and Susan Early have been doing a lot of work on the flower beds around the church.
- D. Dan is going to repair the columns at the portico that have been damaged by weed eaters, possibly put some sort of flashing at the bottom to prevent future damage.
- E. When the weather cools, he plans to put a coat of Cool Seal on the porch roof of Thee House.

**V. Rector's Report**

- A. The Rummage Sale was awesome.
- B. Fr. Anthony met with the Bishop and Dwight Babcock and presented a 1, 5 and 10 year plan for our Thrift Store. It was exactly the type of project for the Congregational Loan Fund.
- C. The next step is to present it to the Finance Committee in October.
- D. We want to apply for \$60,000 from the Congregational Loan Fund at 4.1% for 15 years. The cost would be about \$450/month.
- E. Chuck Barnett moved to proceed with the loan request. Linda Aligood seconded.
  - i. John Velaski expressed concern that we are unable to meet our current financial obligations and is not in favor of taking out an additional loan.
  - ii. Brenda Ferguson, a member of the Thrift Store Committee, offered insight into the discernment and extensive research the Committee has done over the last 8 months.

The motion to proceed with the loan request was carried with five votes for and one against with the following (attached) resolution (on a revised form):

“VESTRYRESOLUTION TO ACCOMPANY FORM FOR PARISHES AND MISSIONS TO USE WHEN BORROWING FROM THE CONGREGATIONAL LOAN FUND – BE IT RESOLVED by the Vestry of Saint Monica’s Episcopal Church that a sum not exceeding \$60,000 be borrowed for not exceeding 30 years at a rate of interest not in excess of 4.1% per annum for the purpose of starting a thrift store and that a mortgage be given on the property at 699 South Highway 95-A as security for said debt, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senior Warden and Rector are authorized to make application to the Bishop and the Standing Committee of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast for the approval of said mortgage loan and to do any and all things and execute any and all papers incidental to obtaining permission to obtain and secure said loan.

I, Viven Welch, Clerk of the Vestry of Saint Monica’s Episcopal Church, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was passed by a majority vote of the Vestry at a meeting duly held on Sunday at 12:22 pm on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2015.

Signed Viven B. Welch

I, Anthony MacWhinnie, II+, Rector of Saint Monica’s Episcopal Church, hereby consent to the action of the vestry in authorizing the foregoing mortgage loan dated at Cantonment, Florida, on this 13<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2015.

Signed Anthony MacWhinnie, II+

**VI. Old Business –**

- A. At the last vestry meeting, it was decided to close a Money Market Account that was costing us additional money because the balance had dropped below the minimum. Linda Aligood, acting as Treasurer and under fiduciary authority of that position, also closed a second Money Market account for the same reason.

**VII. New Business**

- A. Should there be a Planning Committee Meeting for the Small Church Conference? (The clerk was unable to determine from her notes if a date and time was decided.)
- B. Brenda Ferguson will continue to seek a better deal/contract with Cox Communications for WiFi

**VIII. Treasurer's Report**

- A. Linda Aligood presented the treasurer's report
- B. John Velaski moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented. Susan Early seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- C. The Jr. Warden explained that as part of the Stewardship Program he asked Linda to crunch some numbers about amount pledged and the number of members who pledged and who did not pledge, the amount collected as loose plate offerings, those who are behind in their pledge, those who contribute but do not pledge and other forms of income. That report is attached to these minutes.

**IX. Calendar Review**

- A. October 3 is Blessing of the Animals
- B. October 18 is St. Monica's Picnic at Beckwith
- C. October 31 is Trunk or Treat
- D. November 7 is Free Flu Shots
- E. Vestry Meeting (?)

**X. Closing/Adjournment**

- 1. Father Anthony closed the meeting with prayer at 1:11 pm.