

St. George Vestry Minutes
June 10, 2010
Parish Conference Room

In attendance: Father Hugh, Archie Duncan, Paul Martin, Dorothy Corbett, Hugh Gibson, Tom Price, John Ruhsenberger, and LaVerne Collins. Walter Martin, Barb Reali, and Ruth Wadman were unable to attend the meeting.

Father Hugh opened the meeting with prayer at 8:56 AM.

Minutes:

Hugh Gibson moved that the minutes from the Vestry Meeting on May 13, 2010, be approved as submitted. Paul Martin seconded; approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

In Ruth's absence, Tom Price reviewed the balance sheets noting that revenues were slightly more than had been budgeted resulting in a little more cash on hand. However, we are approaching the summer months when contributions from seasonal members typically decline. Tom commented on how helpful the new ACS system was in preparing and monitoring the financial reports. The construction loan balance mentioned last month in the auditor's report has been researched and corrected in the May financials. John Ruhsenberger moved to approve the Financial Report for May 31, 2010. Dorothy Corbett seconded; approved unanimously.

Rector's Remarks:

1. Father Hugh discussed the success of the recent Bishop's visit. He noted that not only was the Bishop pleased but also the several parishes that had confirmands and those being received into the Church. Bishop Howe also liked the new format of having several churches come together and join in the service.
2. Jim Callahan has been doing a yeoman's job on our revamped Web-site. His involvement has resulted in a savings of \$659.00/year as the church no longer is paying for a concierge service to post to the Web. Jim is working with Debbie Shartle, our secretary, who has had previous experience maintaining a Web-site so that she can serve as back-up if needed.
3. Father Hugh circulated a proposed advertisement to go into The Villages' Newcomers Guide. He recommended that we purchase a 1/4 page ad at a cost of \$460.00/year. The Vestry unanimously agreed with the purchase of the ad.

Review of Parish Bylaws:

Father Hugh presented to the Vestry a revised version of the parish by-laws that he and Hugh Gibson had worked on and that Archie Duncan as well as two previous Senior Wardens had reviewed. Additional comments were given by those present. Another draft reflecting these changes will be sent to the Vestry prior to the next meeting so that they can vote on the by-laws in July.

Finance Committee Report:

1. Tom Price moved that the \$1004.50 spent on repairing the sprinkler system be paid out of the restricted reserves account. Hugh Gibson seconded; unanimously approved.
2. Tom Price moved that the customary donation to the Bishop when he visits a parish be \$500.00 for his 2010 visit and that this amount be comprised of \$450.00 from loose plate offerings plus \$50.00 already in the Bishop's Fund. Dorothy Corbett seconded; approved unanimously.
3. Discussion was held regarding purchasing Certificates of Deposit (CD's) from Citizens Bank because of their higher interest rate than what we are currently receiving on funds in the Money Market Fund in our Edward Jones Account. Archie Duncan moved that we begin purchasing 6-month CD's, in \$10,000 increments (totaling \$40,000), on a bi-monthly basis. The purchases are subject to monthly review to keep on top of any interest rate changes. Tom Price seconded the motion; approved unanimously.
4. Father Hugh shared with the Vestry a letter received from Bishop Howe regarding our failure to meet the 2009 Diocesan Plan for Proportional Giving. In the ensuing discussion as to how to respond, it was noted that our budget for 2010 also did not include sufficient funds to meet the proportion required for a parish of our size and income. Because of concern as to the dire consequences that can result if a parish does not meet its proportional level over several years, the Vestry decided that we must meet this commitment from this year forward. Tom Price moved that we increase the monthly amount from cash reserves to \$4800/month so that we can meet the \$50,000 proportion for 2010. Archie Duncan seconded; approved unanimously. The Vestry also requested that Father Hugh in his meeting with Bishop Howe, ask forgiveness for the \$8,812 owed from 2009 as there appears to be no way to make-up that amount, but tell him of the action taken at the June Vestry Meeting as an expression of our commitment to be in compliance with the Diocesan Plan for Proportional Giving.

Junior Warden's Report:

1. Paul Martin explained that in April a break in the large water line was discovered that also prohibited use of seven sprinkler zones. The \$1004.50 cost to repair and overhaul the system was less than the original estimate and should result in lower water bills.
2. Additional cubicles are being added in the choir room to accommodate new choir members.
3. Paul asked for prayers for Sally and Norman Brandeberry who are relocating to Oklahoma in the next few weeks.
4. Paul has not had an opportunity to follow-up with Jane Cable regarding the hospital equipment that she is storing.
5. The fountain in the Memorial Garden is now working. The electrical system was rebuilt at a small cost.
6. Music during the summer will be provided by various church members/groups.

Senior Warden's Report:

1. All of the hearing assistance devices have been purchased. More may be ordered in the Fall to sell to parishioners or parishioners may order on-line.
2. Archie Duncan reported that a new copier had been leased that is more suited to the church's needs. The lease is more favorable than the previous one and maintenance costs are locked-in for five years. The church should save approximately \$4,000/year with the new contract. We will also look at resizing *Saints Alive* to save on the expense of publishing the newsletter. The Vestry thanked Archie for his skill at negotiating such a favorable copier contract.
3. Archie plans to follow-up with the company about the SCRIP Program before the next Vestry meeting.

Other Reports/Discussions:

1. Dorothy Corbett inquired as to why there was no ad for the church in the Saturday editions of the *Daily Sun*. Father Hugh explained that to place an ad on a continual basis was expensive and research and history has shown that a weekly ad does not attract people to a church. St. George does place targeted ads in the paper for high holidays such as Christmas and Easter. Also, at this time we are adding more new members than we are losing by attrition.
2. LaVerne Collins announced that she will be unable to attend the July Vestry Meeting. Paul Martin "volunteered" to serve as Clerk for the July meeting.
3. Congratulations were proffered to John and Deborah Ruhsenberger who are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary today.

Archie Duncan gave a closing prayer. The meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

LaVerne Vines Collins
Clerk of the Vestry