

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting Minutes Highlights

The following are highlights of the April 25, 2018, Vestry meeting minutes.

875 Building Proposal

Upfit Committee Chair Jonathan Smith and the Rev. D. Dixon Kinser, Rector, presented a proposal from Walter Robbs Architecture to develop complete architectural and engineering drawings for the 875 West Fifth Street building. They explained that the drawings are the necessary next step in the renovation as they will be used to get competitive bids for construction. Mike Ryan proposed that the Vestry approve up to \$150,000 from reserves to employ Walter Robbs. The proposal was approved and seconded. The Vestry approved.

Financial Report

Parish Administrator Tom McDowell shared that pledges are ahead of budget by \$50,000. Operating expenses are up due to three pay periods this month.

Stewardship Report

Director of Stewardship Margaret Turner updated the membership on the 2019 stewardship campaign plans. Liza and Marshall Smith will chair the campaign and Tim and Kate Cooper will co-chair. They are currently working on the theme for the campaign which will center on "joy." Todd Davis will again do a video to use in conjunction with the campaign. This year's kick-off will be September 9 and they plan to finish around October 7 with an event at the church. She also announced the annual 1876 Society Luncheon on May 17 with Tom Connors as the speaker.

Rector's Report

Dixon reported that the visit by the Bishop last week was very positive and that he was very complimentary of St. Paul's and the work of our parish.

A Security Committee has been formed and will be chaired by Kay Morgan. The committee will make recommendations to the Vestry on security policies and procedures.

Clergy Reports

The Rev. Sara C. Ardrey-Graves, Associate Rector, reported that the adult education series is finishing up the spring series with Chris Copeland teaching two classes on the Enneagram and a series of videos of The Trinity Institute's "Values in Action" series.

There are currently 82 people signed up for Kanuga weekend. "Community" is the theme of the weekend.

The Rev. Darby O. Everhard, Associate Rector, thanked the Vestry for coming to the luncheon with the Bishop.

Pentecost is May 20 and will be celebrated with an evensong at 5:00 and a Pentecost party afterwards. A Welcome Brunch for newcomers, staff and Vestry is planned for June 3, and plans are underway for a Graduation Celebration that Sunday as well.

Wardens' Reports

Senior Warden Allan Burrows updated the membership on the proposed capital campaign. The committee is currently working on a theme for the campaign, centering around words such as renew, restore, refresh and outreach as well as the 90th anniversary of the first service in the church's 1928 building on September 8, 1929.

Junior Warden Tom Connors reported on a diocese-sponsored program on church security that he attended April 4. He reported that we are already doing the right things and are on the right track.

The Vertical Access and Conservation Solutions Corporation survey is complete, and a report is due June 30. The Buildings and Grounds Committee recommended that a dead poplar tree on the playground be removed. They have an estimate of \$5,200 to do the work. Funds are available in the Landscaping and Grounds fund. The motion was made and seconded to remove the tree. The Vestry approved.

The Buildings and Grounds Committee has reviewed plans developed for renovation of the Dalton Memorial Garden. After much discussion, the Vestry has asked the Buildings and Grounds Committee to clarify the scope of the work that has to be done.

Jeff Allen has presented plans for re-landscaping at the front of the church. The plans include two stone planters purchased with the Nancy Sherk Memorial Funds and the landscaping project will be funded by a private donor. The membership pointed out that the work should not be done until the nave restoration is complete. A motion that the Vestry approve the proposed landscaping pending timing of the nave restoration was approved and seconded. The Vestry approved.

Vestry Liaisons' Reports

Christine Storch reported that the ECW had its Spring Luncheon recently and Lawren Desai, Executive Director and Curator at a/perture cinema, was the speaker. Christine also explained that the ECW has traditionally funded kitchen needs. They have requested that this become a line item in the church budget instead.

Brian Patterson reported that the Music Committee requested that they be allowed to transfer \$10,000 from the Helen Cornwall fund to pay for Easter and Palm Sunday musicians. A motion was made and seconded to allow this transfer. The motion was approved.

New Business

St. Paul's Transportation Ministry's salary and mileage costs have been traditionally paid out of the Senior Adults Ministry budget. Anne Rahn has requested that this cost come from the church's general funds instead. Consensus of the group was that this would be an appropriate move when next year's budget is planned. The Vestry also stated their appreciation for Wayne Foushee and his work.

Dixon informed the Vestry that there is currently a St. Paul's by the Sea fund that contains \$9,500. The mission church these funds were donated for was dissolved and they need to be reallocated. Dixon recommended:

- \$4,000 to be used to help fund the "Freedom School", a summer reading program in our community
- \$5,000 to be used to help with St. Augustine College's scholarship fund for Episcopal students
- \$500 to be used by the Rev. Nancy Vaders, Director of Outreach Ministries, for direct outreach needs.

The proposal was approved by the Vestry.

Dixon proposed that the Vestry consider helping Director of Youth Ministries Nick VanHorn with his divinity school costs. The proposal was approved by the Vestry.

The Rev. Sara Ardrey-Graves requested that the Vestry approve use of the \$1,351 from Martin Memorial Fund for youth ministry to pay scholarships for youth and college-age youth leaders to attend St. Paul's Parish Weekend at Kanuga. The Vestry approved the proposal.