

Church Vestry Meeting Minutes March 17, 2009

1. **Attendance.** The Vestry gathered at 7:00 for an evening meal presented by Gary Perkins and Lauren Meinhardt. Present were:

Father Mandell
Father Morris
Chris Arey
Glen Clark
Edwin Cubbison
Cheri Cuff
Adam Hawkins
Linda Hemming
Henk de Jager
Connie King
Lauren Meinhardt
Gary Perkins
Eleanor Perry
David Primmer
Bob Stevens
Libby Vinso

2. **New Business.**
 - The minutes of the February 17 Vestry meeting were approved as corrected.
 - A resolution to pay the final 2007 invoice from ATCS for survey work associated with the new building plans was passed.
 - A motion to authorize Father Morris to contract for transportation for the 2009 Parish-Wide mission trip to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania was approved.
 - Planning for Bishop Peter James Lee's visit to Aquia Episcopal Church, scheduled for April 26, was discussed. The Vestry recognizes that Bishop Lee will have his own preferences on meetings and activities, but Father Mandell will pursue an opportunity for the Vestry to meet with the Bishop to discuss subjects of mutual interest.
3. **Treasurer's Report.** Chris Arey presented the Treasurer's Report for February 2009, which was accepted. Two additional pledges were received, bringing the 2009 total to 121.
4. **Historic Church Committee Report.** The Vestry approved Pat and Withers Moncure and Ed Labarre as non-vestry members of the committee. Connie King presented the report (attached), outlining three options for roof repairs / replacement, information on upper story window restoration and repairs to the roof cornice, and options for addressing drainage issues and a handicapped access ramp. Cost estimates for all of these items total \$235,000. The Vestry must make a future decision on which options to approve and to seek appropriate funding.

March 9 the committee met and selected David Primmer as the chair and members on the meeting (attached). The Vestry approved Ann Zecca and Gene Smith as non-vestry members of the committee. Chris Arey reported that he is looking into the possibility of depositing some of our reserve funds in Burke and Herbert Bank, to diversify our banking deposits to add security in the current economic situation. No decision has been taken on this possibility.

6. Grounds Task Group Report. Linda Hemming presented the report (attached), which includes one-year and five-year grounds maintenance plans, as well as the Spring clean-up plan scheduled for Saturday, March 28.

7. Rector's Report.

- Father Mandell discussed the annual Parochial Report to the Diocese, covering membership, attendance, services, stewardship and finances of the Parish. The Vestry approved the report, with one minor correction.
- In response to our expression of interest, a seminarian has indicated interest in being assigned to Aquia Episcopal Church in 2010. If the assignment is approved, funding will be included in the 2010 budget cycle.
- The "preview" dinner on March 16 of the new Aquia's Table ministry was a resounding success, with 61 attendees contributing \$450 towards the ministry's costs. Most feedback was positive. The launch date for this ministry is April 22, and plans are going forward concerning publicity, the new ovens to be purchased with the \$4000 donation received from the ECW, and other details. A meeting of Aquia's Table leadership will be held Sunday, March 23, and a "Frequently Asked Questions" information sheet will be developed to respond to Parishioner inquiries.

8. Senior Warden's Report.

- Glen reported on the success of Bob Stevens in obtaining final Stafford County building inspection and occupancy permit for the Clifton Chapel parish hall. This opens the way to conclude a new lease with the Orthodox Church, which will have provisions covering utilities and recurring long-term maintenance costs aimed at making the lease cost-free for Aquia Episcopal Church. The objective is to have the new lease ready for Vestry approval at the April Vestry meeting. In the meantime, the Orthodox Church has voluntarily increased its monthly lease payment to \$300. We have given permission for them to re-locate a platform and railing at the altar area of the Chapel, which is not used by the Orthodox Church in their worship practice. The platform / railing will be stored for later use / reinstallation if required.
- Glen presented a report and survey from the March 14 "Vestry Education Day" seminar.

9. Junior Warden's Report.

- Adam Hawkins discussed the need to clean out and remodel the Parish Hall store room to accommodate food and supplies not only for Feed His Sheep but also for the Aquia's Table ministry. Adam and Bob Stevens are working on a plan and cost estimate to present at a future date.

ing replacement at the Rectory is ready to begin as soon

10. Announcements and Thank-you's.

- The St. Patrick's Potluck and Games Night will be on Sunday, March 23.
- Spring grounds cleanup will be on Saturday, March 28.
- The 9:00 AM service on March 29 will be a First Communion service.
- Vestry members were reminded about the Magnetic Church workshop March 27 and 28.
- The current confirmation class will hold a car wash on March 29 at King Street Blues restaurant.
- The annual Parish Picnic will be held on June 7 at Locust Shade Park.
- Father Morris will attend a seminar on preaching at Princeton, New Jersey June 14-19.
- Father Mandell will do concentrated reading and study on the same-sex union issue from April 27 to May 11, as requested by Bishop Johnston.
- The Vestry enthusiastically agreed with Father Mandell's suggestion that we invite Bishop Johnston to visit Aquia Church without any particular agenda, to get acquainted with us.
- Thank-you letters will be sent to:
 - John Weagraff, for his labor on making the spindles for the new stair railing above the choir loft required by our insurance company.
 - The ECW, for their gift of \$4000 for new ovens to be used for Aquia's Table and other Parish activities.
 - Donnelly Concrete, which dug up the old inspection report that cleared the way for final approval of the Clifton Chapel parish hall.
- The Vestry thanked Bob Stevens for his work on the Clifton Chapel occupancy permit.
- The Vestry thanked the Aquia Snow Removal Team for their valiant efforts following the March blizzard, clearing the snow for the following day's funeral service.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Cubbison
Register

Attachments:

Resolution to Pay Final 2007 Invoice from ATCS
Motion to Authorize Contracting Transportation for 2009 Mission Trip
Historic Church Committee Report
Finance Committee Notes / Inviting and Growing Task Group Notes
Grounds Task Group Report