

Minutes of the Vestry February 11, 2015

Present: The Very Rev. Paula Vukmanic, Sr. Warden Fabrizio Pela, Jr. Warden Clint Alley, Bud Allen, Mark Hamilton, Gayle Taylor, Laurie Anderson, Dick Cantine, Terri Tsuchida, Dick Briggs, Liz Cook, Jennifer Sams

Not Present: Ginger Bredesen

Also Attending: Business Manager Elaine Mistele, Ministry Council Rep. Jeannie Cobb

The Meeting was called to order by Mo. Paula at 7:03 pm. Members reflected on excerpts from *A Vestry Resource Guide*; Psalm 127:1 & Matthew 4:19.

Mo. Paula welcomed the new members. Bud asked if any concerns had been raised at the Annual Meeting. The answer was “no,” but discussion then centered around the need for this transition period to be very transparent without any politics. The Vestry must LISTEN.

The minutes for January 21, 2015, and February 8, 2015, were accepted.

Elaine gave the financial report along with a mini training session for the new members. She explained how a church budget differs from a normal business model; the meaning of the %'s each month; the different funds and restrictions; the category labels for pledges, estimated givers, pre-paid pledges and faith incomes; the Special Gifts account and the decrease in withdrawal this year. She extended the invitation to come see her at any time with questions. She also invited members to participate in the annual audit. Dick Briggs suggested the donors of the Special Gift receive a thank you; it was agreed. Elaine pointed out line item “Sarah’s Special Projects” will be transferred to Mo. Paula’s Special Projects We are negative \$11,772.77 for the year.

Mo. Paula reinstated the Clergy Report on the agenda. She wants the Vestry to be aware of her activities. In addition to administrative duties and pastoral issues (home and hospital visits), counseling sessions, memorials/funerals and weddings, she is active in the following activities: as Dean of Deanery 8 she calls and leads meetings; she presides at Holy Communion at The Canterbury once a month; she meets with a group of local clergy once a month (one result is a new priest at St. Paul’s Lutheran church has asked if they might join St. Francis for the Easter Vigil); she serves on the Diocesan Ministry Commission dealing with candidates for ordination as deacons and priests; she mentors a newly ordained priest; she attends training for new PICs monthly; currently all Ministry Council Shepherds are under her authority; and of course there is the “small” matter of three weekly services and a sermon. Yes, she is looking carefully with Diocesan Personnel for an assistant!

Jeannie gave a brief Ministry Council report as the Vestry did not have a representative at their last meeting. She explained how they work together with special attention to the calendaring of events, and they plan well into the future. Two upcoming events are the Youth’s hosting of Shrove Tuesday’s Pancake Supper on February 17th and an Evensong presentation by the choir with youth ringing handbells on March 15th.

MOTION; Gayle Taylor moved Mark Hamilton be the Vestry representative for the Diocesan Convention. The motion was seconded and **PASSED.**

Fabrizio led discussion on the creation of the Parish Profile. Several parishioners have expressed an interest in serving on the committee. Vestry members were asked to pray about volunteering to serve. The consensus seems to be: let's start from our 2007 Profile; the profile does not have to be as in depth; let's do it quickly! A suggested timeline was for completion immediately after Easter. The Vestry's main concern is that the voices of the congregation be heard. That will begin with the Lenten Suppers.

Mo. Paula reviewed the Lenten Supper format: each session will have a theme and garner views from the members of the parish. March 4th - Beginning Together, March 11th - Where We Have Come From, March 18th - Where We Are Now, March 25th - Where We Are Going. An additional Parish Profile History Day is planned for Sunday, March 22nd. Discussion continued on other possible avenues to reach parish members. The Profile Committee will decide.

Fabrizio reviewed the PIC and PICUSC paths. Priest in Charge is in lieu of having an interim appointed by the Bishop. If a parish chooses to make a traditional search for a rector, the PIC may NOT be a candidate. Priest in Charge Under Special Circumstances is a one year period of discernment by the priest and the Vestry leading to a decision by both priest and Vestry to accept/call as rector or not. Bishop Bruno did give permission to the Vestry to call Mo. Paula as PICUSC immediately; it was Mo. Paula's decision to opt for the PIC route first for the benefit of the parish.

Mo. Paula announced a new computer program, "Servant Keeper," which will replace Excel and be of great benefit in the operations at St. Francis. Susan Marshall is working on the installation and hopes to transition within a month or so.

Vestry Committee memberships will be discussed at the Vestry Retreat. It is believed Ginger has the sign-up list for food; further needs will be sent by email. The Saturday venue will be at the Neighborhood Church as the Malaga Cove Library room was not available.

Mo. Paula announced she will be administering "Ashes to Go" from 9:30 am - 10:30 am under the pine tree in Malaga Cove.

Fabrizio closed the meeting with a beautiful prayer from Paula's gift to him, *Meditations for Meetings*, at 9:25 pm.

Barbara Carpenter, Clerk

