

ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Vestry Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2013

Vestry present: Peter Boone, Cindy Coleman, Teno Bratton, John Rick, Lee Kramer, Shelly Shock, Steve Moore, The Rev. Sandi Kerner.

Absent: B.J. Giannini, Isabella Worrell

Opening Prayer: Peter led us in saying together the Lord's Prayer.

Guests Present: Alan Nash of the Virginia Department of Transportation and Betty Handy, member of the St. Luke's Architectural Review Committee.

Mr. Nash and Betty attended to explain the proposed action by VDOT to take a portion of St. Luke's property in order to make safety improvements on Three Bridge Road. Below is a summary of what was presented.

The project is being proposed as a Safety measure. VDOT plans to widen lanes, create a shoulder and grade/seed the ditch. Funding for this project is coming from the Federal Budget.

Approximately eight trees will be taken down, stumps ground and replaced with nicely graded soil and grass. Main utilities will be relocated to the other side of Three Bridge Road. VDOT will replace the current culvert pipe under the driveway and will be responsible for keeping it unclogged. VDOT will also take a drainage easement (6 ft. wide). The amount of land VDOT will take that currently belongs to St. Luke's is approximately .2 acres. Although negotiations have not been finalized, the current offer to St. Luke's is approximately \$7,500 which includes \$800 for the timber. VDOT has also agreed to put in a permanent entrance surface driveway, apron (asphalt) approximately 15 ft. in from the road to the right of way. Funding for the asphalt will come from the State Maintenance Budget.

Anticipated commencement of work is the first of 2014. Anticipated length of work from start to completion will be approximately six months.

Betty showed a plat with the variance granted by VDOT which will decrease our graveyard distance from the road to 25 feet. In order to protect this additional space the current wall will have to be relocated.

The question was addressed and answered that St. Luke's will receive the funds, not the Diocese. Betty said that her committee will most likely recommend that the proceeds from this project should be used to complete a hard surface apron at the other entrances to the church, most likely brick.

Sandi Kerner thanked Betty Handy and John Rick for spearheading the meetings/negotiations with VDOT and helping us to understand the scope and ramifications.

Motion passed to approve the minutes of the August 8, 2013 meeting.

Rector's Report (attached)

Sandi announced that Linda Ricker will meet with the Commission on Ministry and the Bishop to be considered for postulancy.

She also discussed growth at St. Luke's, many new members and two baptisms scheduled for November.

Senior Warden

Peter discussed the great energy currently at St. Luke's and all the wonderful things happening. He also invited everyone to call him if they have any concerns.

Junior Warden's Report (attached)

Teno discussed that he will be requesting a quote from Griffith Heating/Air for A/C system upgrades and maintenance contract.

Commission Reports:

Fellowship:

Shelly announced that Connie Harris is spearheading a team to coordinate our next event which is Homecoming, October 20th. Peter Boone will draft a letter of invitation to be sent.

Worship:

Sandi discussed the new layout in the Parish Hall for the 9:00 a.m. service. Current set up will be changed to a square/round configuration. There will be a section for the children's choir.

Sandi also announced that all of the Eucharistic Ministers and Visitors, and Worship Leaders are in the process of being licensed or re-licensed. Eucharistic Visitors must attend Safe Church Training (both adult and child sessions) to be licensed.

Communication:

Janet Tucker has been doing the updates to our website. A new tab has been added to the Home page, "Ministries of St. Luke", which includes the entirety of the booklet that Sandi prepared for new members outlining all the activities and opportunities at St. Luke's. Updating all areas of the website is underway.

Youth and Christian Formation:

John reported that the new Atrium for Catechesis has been completed. He also discussed that the Adult Form topic for the upcoming year will be learning about other faiths.

Welcome to St. Luke's:

Sandi announced that the booklet "Ministries of St. Luke's" had been completed and was given in a gift bag along with a laminated book mark to new members. She plans to distribute this booklet to all members as well.

Outreach: (attached)

Steve talked about the Coalition of Churches and how it was formed and invited anyone interested to attend one of their meetings. He also talked about the Food Pantry. Currently the pantry is in need of canned meats and entre type canned goods such as beef stew. Steve mentioned that collection for Thanksgiving Meals will begin in October. He gave Janet a flyer to be scanned and placed on the website.

Finance: (attached)

Year to Date Income is down 4%. Expenses are over budget by 7%. There was a delay in transfer of funds from Clergy Housing Fund to the Operating Account. Statements of Giving will be sent out the end of September which may help stimulate giving.

Peter also reminded us to start thinking about budget issues. We have been budgeting the past several years with a loss and need to consider if we should continue relying on "rainy day funds". A separate meeting of the vestry has been scheduled for Sunday, September 29th after the 10:30 service, Blessing of the Animals.

Motion Passed to approve the Treasurer's Report.

New Business:

Motion Passed to approve interment of Anne Urbine. The family has paid \$300 and other donations to the graveyard fund have made up the required \$500.

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New Vestry Members – we need to be considering motivated individuals and talents of candidates for the upcoming three seats. Election will be held at the Annual Meeting in December.

Congregational Meeting – It was agreed that we need to have a meeting open to everyone who has questions regarding the VDOT proposal. Plats will be on display to help visualize what is to be done. Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, October 13th immediately following the 9:00 a.m. service.

Closing prayer by Sandi Kerner.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Tucker, Register