

St. Thomas Episcopal Church
Burnsville, North Carolina
Vestry Meeting Agenda
April 23, 2008

Opening Prayer: *Revered Bob Reese*

Attendance: *Reverend Bob Reese, John Davis, Stacey Lane, Joann Collins, Charlie Stover, Neal Culver, Jim Haaga, Diana Donovan, and Pat Sharkey as Vestry Clerk*

Approval of Agenda: *Stacey motioned to approve the agenda, Neal seconded, all voted in favor.*

Approval of minutes: *Stacey motioned to approve the minutes, Neal seconded, all voted in favor.*

Selection of next vestry meeting date and time: *Sunday, May 25 after service.*

Financial Reports

- Treasurer's Report – Charlie Stover: *Charlie distributed copies of the year-to-date general fund budget. As of the date of his report, we have had \$24,385 income. According to the 2008 Budget, we should have \$28,915, causing us to be 16% or \$4,530 behind. Charlie said there is \$5,000 or 18% positive in "outflows" due to monies we are not spending on a rector's pension and stipend. \$7,500 has been allocated for the rector search and only \$198 spent so far. If it were not for this \$5,000 amount, we would be in an unfavorable position with the budget. Charlie sent out letters to members who are behind in their pledges or donations. Bob suggested asking a family or a member to give testimony about what St. Thomas means to them, and speak about stewardship. Joann made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report for the General Fund, John seconded and all voted in favor.*
- Building Fund – Charlie reported that the Building Fund is pretty much the same as the last Vestry meeting except for an \$84 donation. If our balance goes below \$1,000, we have a substantial fee of \$25 to the bank. When we get to that point Charlie would like to close the Building Fund account and add the monies to the General Fund. Joann made a motion to approve the Building Fund report, Stacey seconded, and all voted in favor.

Pastoral Concerns: *Dave Zurbrick passed away on Saturday. There will be a Memorial Service for him on June 14 at 1pm. Melanie Stallings will play at the service. Bob will check with Maggie to see if she would like a lunch served after the service. At Sunday's service there will be a slight form of memorial for Dave. Jim reported that Lynn McLure got a great report from her doctor. The Bobbe's had a severe lightning strike at their house this past Saturday which impacted a lot of the wiring, and they are not currently living at their home because of this.*

Old Business

Follow-up of Mothers' Morning Out with Stacey: Stacey said we are not controlled by day care regulations. She has spoken with Christine regarding the number of kids and their ages. Christine wants to use the classroom for this purpose. Christine will take reservations and the maximum age will be 6 yrs. There would be no charge for this service. Mitchell-Yancey Partnership will advertise. Thursday morning from either 8-12 or 9-12. Stacey was going to talk with Rachel Murray. Charlie said we have a need

for an intercom. We could use it to call on Sundays when it is time for them to come up. John will check into a wireless phone. Christine will get back with Stacey regarding summer schedule.

Action Items

1. Diana Donovan – Scheduling Video Series: The videos have arrived, and Diana would like to schedule a series for Tuesday evenings during the month of May. The point of these lectures is to educate people about the kinds of violence in Christianity. There are a total of 4 lectures. Would like to publish a notice in the local newspapers and market the series to other churches in the area. Her thought was to have soft drinks and cookies available, watch the lectures, then break into small groups for discussion.
2. Selection of Delegates for Diocesan Convention & June 7 Ministry Summit: Bob will attend. John said he would attend, Stacey will be an alternate if her schedule permits. It was suggested to ask Karen Miller if Stacey could not commit.
3. Search Committee Update: Jim Haaga reported the Search Committee has interviewed everyone who has been considered; and they are closed to accepting new names. There are three candidates being considered. Four members of the Search Committee went to a church service out of town and a dinner to meet one of the candidates this past weekend. Since all three candidates are really great and each excels in various aspects of ministry, this makes it a very difficult choice for the committee to make. It was hoped that they could wrap up their decision by April 24, but with a few members being out of town and delays on the part of the candidates, they may not be ready to make their decision until some time in the latter part of May. The Search Committee will meet again next week. They are in the process of checking references as well as meeting with the Diocese regarding different things. The candidate who lives away will come to visit, but not on a Sunday. The Committee will then meet around May 18 or 19 for a final meeting. In terms of expenses very little has been spent till this past weekend. Between gas and food approximately \$400 was spent. We will have to pay expenses of candidate who is away which will include air fare, hotel, food, rental car, etc. \$7500 includes moving expenses also. The candidates understand this position is a 50% part-time position with 20-25 hours per week expected. Joann has written up a job description, and will email it out to the vestry members. It was asked how this timeframe suits Bob's schedule and he and Jeannette will be on their Alaskan cruise for two Sunday's, with Tom Niehaus filling in. Bob said normally he would give his last service on a particular Sunday, then a supply priest would fill in the following Sunday, with the new Priest giving the service on the Sunday after that. Diana commented that when she began this process she found the Diocese process somewhat frustrating but the longer she worked with it she found it more helpful. Since the candidates are all so qualified it is a more intimidating task. She asked that the Vestry keep the Committee in their prayers.
4. Our next steps in the search process: The next step would be to have a joint meeting, the candidate with the vestry, then dismiss the candidate and deliberate alone. Only the Vestry would meet with the candidate. Once a decision is made the Bishop would be notified. Then a call letter would be initiated. We need to prepare a Letter of Agreement which will include specifics on stipend, health insurance, time off, etc.
5. Church Rental Policy – Humane Society: The Humane Society has asked to use our building for their meeting on July 12. They had used it last year and there were no problems. Neal will research how much they paid, and how much deposit we asked of them. Pat has agreed to act as kitchen liaison at no charge to them.
6. May 11th – 15th Anniversary Celebration: John thought it would be a good idea to invite the Hispanics that were confirmed at St. Thomas a few weeks ago. There was discussion about ordering the Book of Common Prayer and the Hymnal in

Spanish. It was also discussed to pull the Spanish version of the service off the internet and making copies available rather than purchasing the books. It was decided to have Potluck on that Sunday.

7. Mission Statement Review: There was discussion that the newer version of the Mission Statement is too long. John will email the older and the newer mission statements to the Vestry members for their review and discussion at the next Vestry Meeting.

Senior Warden's Report

Committee Reports

Mission & Ministries

Building and Grounds: Charlie suggested hiring Terminex to do termite treatment of the building. Charlie will get prices from Terminex and Go Forth.

Stewardship

Other Business

Joann commented that she was very disappointed more St. Thomas members did not sign up to attend the David Johnson breakfast.

Calendar

April 26 – David Johnson Breakfast

May 11 – Potluck lunch