Meeting of the St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church Vestry

September 21, 2015

Meeting opened at 6:30 pm

Present: Rector Kevin Huddleston; Sr. Warden David Wiggins; Jr. Warden Bob Carlson; Treasurer Win Zoellner; Clerk Lindsay Mohn; David Schlomer; Ronda Barker; Jerry Cormack; Walker Phillips; Debbie Treglia; Damon Mathews; Mike Meng; Judy Miksch; Leta Anderson; Elizabeth Gooch

Absent: Kent Jackson; Stephanie Stratemeier

Guests: STMAA Foundation President John Marquis; Parishioner Kim Sorenson

Mr. Marquis gave the annual report of the STMAA Foundation.  As of June 30, 2015, their total assets were $1,178,526.  Country Club Trust continues to provide investment advisory services.  The Foundation's distribution policy is at the discretion of their Trustees, but is anticipated to be in the 4-7% range annually.  About $62K has been distributed this year.  Mr. Marquis ended his report with the information that the Legacy Society has 60 - 65 Charter Members whose names will be listed on a plaque which will be displayed at church.  They will also have special name tags to recognize their participation.  Mr. Marquis then left the meeting.

Parishioner Kim Sorenson, a landscape architect with Ochsner Hare & Hare, gave a comprehensive report of the parking study she recently presented to the B&G Committee.  The intent is to increase the number of ADA spaces available in the front driveway.  Ms. Sorenson gave the Vestry a list of guidelines and precise requirements that need to be met.  The predicted expense of this version of the  project is approximately $200K.  Jr. Warden Carlson gave the Vestry some additional information, including the fact that the project can be designed to meet a smaller budget, but that smaller projects generally have a higher unit cost.  The Vestry thanked Ms. Sorenson for her presentation, and she then left the meeting.

Jr. Warden Carlson then gave the evening's devotion.

Ms. Anderson led an exercise with a question about the legacy of family.  She shared that the pledge drive theme will be, 'We are known forever by the tracks we leave'.  During the month of October, speakers will share oral and written presentations about the tracks they have followed.

Father Huddleston requested the group go into Executive Session.

Sr. Warden Wiggins reported that the pledge drive will kick off on October 1st.

Jr. Warden Carlson reported that the roof repair started today.  The Boy Scout Eagle project is moving forward.  There is now internet access in the sanctuary.  The Day School has replaced their classroom windows.  The Gardening Angels have gotten tree trimming bids, and work will be done within the next few weeks.  Dr. Walker has evaluated sound systems for use during the 8:45 service, and will be testing one system temporarily.  If the system works well, the B&G Committee will take it to the Finance Committee to discuss funding.  There are also seven projects in various planning stages that are either being priced out or being added to the list of desirable work.  These include but are not limited to improvements to the choir loft, the planning of a biannual work day to help the Gardening Angels in the areas they are not responsible for, adding some low voltage lighting in the garden, some minor repair work in the parking lot, repair of the lighting in the soffit outside Penny's Place and adding some signage indicating the proper entry to the building.

Treasurer Zoellner reported that monthly income was on budget.  However, year to date income is still unfavorable by $44K.  This is largely due to a shortfall in pledge income of $38K.  Mr. Zoellner then gave a presentation on the status of the loan netting and loan renewal issues.  In short, the parish is incurring interest expense on an outstanding loan balance of $515K at a rate of 5.75%.  However, there is a cash balance of about $400K which is earning next to no income.  The proposal is to reduce the loan balance by $200K by drawing from the cash balance.  Assuming the loan rate does not change, the parish could save about $18K in annual interest expense. The legality of this action has been reviewed by Bill Waugh, and he has determined that it is in compliance with the state Act under which it falls.  Mr. Zoellner identified several issues that were considered before resulting in the Finance Committee's decision to recommend netting the loan.  Next, Mr. Zoellner reported that the Finance Committee had also authorized him to negotiate the final terms of the refinance proposal with Country Club Bank pending Vestry approval.  This issue has been considered in previous Vestry meetings.  Ms. Barker made a motion to approve both recommended actions.  Mr. Schlomer seconded the motions, which were taken to a vote and passed unanimously.

As there were no corrections or additions to the August Vestry minutes, they were approved as written.

Mr. Phillips told the Vestry that his family will be moving out of state in October.  His Vestry term ends in 2016, and the group agreed to leave his seat open until the regular election at the annual meeting in January.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsay Mohn

Clerk of the Vestry