

**ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
608 JEFFERSON STREET
TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI 38804**

MINUTES OF JUNE 9, 2008 VESTRY MEETING

PRESENT:

The Rev. LaRae Rutenbar, Interim Rector	Deanna Alford	
Les Alvis, Sr. Warden	Frank Anger	Bud Nelson
Betty Lee Marshall, Jr. Warden	Wayne Averett	
Corky Springfield, Treasurer	Nathan Duncan	
	Sally Gray	Cathy Sparks
	Jill Hart	

Tommie Moore, Clerk

ABSENT:

Mike Fitzpatrick, Smokey Livingston, Peg Oakes, Mary Lou Parks, Rhonda Saunders, Vicky Vance

VISITOR: Lloyd Gray, chair of the Rector Search Committee

The Vestry meeting opened with a prayer by The Rev. LaRae Rutenbar at 7:03 p.m.

REVIEW OF MINUTES:

The May 12, 2008 Vestry minutes were reviewed.

MOTION: (Duncan/Sparks)

Approve the May 12, 2008 Vestry minutes as submitted.

APPROVED.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer, Corky Springfield, reviewed our financial status for the month ending May 31, 2008. He stated that we collected approximately \$28,000 of a budget of \$40,498 for the month of May. He said that we are 93% of budget year-to-date. Corky reported that expenses were below budget month-to-date.

MOTION: (Marshall/Nelson)

Approve the Treasurer's report as submitted.

APPROVED.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN TREASURER'S REPORT:

Capital Campaign Treasurer, Mike Fitzpatrick submitted a written report, which Sr. Warden Les Alvis reviewed with the Vestry. Les stated that pledge receipts were \$11,041.67 of a budget of \$6,484. No expenses were incurred in the month of May. The next quarterly installment on our loan with First National Bank of Oxford is due in July.

MOTION: (Anger/Duncan)

Approve Capital Campaign Treasurer's report as submitted.

APPROVED.

CHRISTIAN GROWTH COMMISSION:

Convener, Jill Hart reported that the playground equipment will be installed on the Nursery deck this week.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE COMMISSION: No report

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION:

Convener, Bud Nelson reported that the Stewardship Committee is beginning their work and hope to have the first draft of the 2009 budget in August.

JR. WARDEN REPORT:

Betty Lee Marshall reported that the JESCO warranty on our new facility will expire on June 12, 2008. She stated that a walk through had been taken and a list of items that need attention will be given to David Richardson with JESCO.

SR. WARDEN REPORT:

Les Alvis reported that a survey of the organ had been completed by Greg Koziel Organ Tuning and Maintenance from Memphis. He stated that Mr. Koziel estimated that repairs on the organ would run approximately \$39,000. Les advised that these repairs are not urgent, but would grow worse in time. He also advised that the organ is worth in place approximately \$400,000. In addition, Mr. Koziel advised that the organ console needs to be rebuilt at an estimated cost of \$62,500. He stated that we could replace the console with an electronic console that would be smaller in size (approximately 2/3 the size of our present console) at an estimated cost of \$69,000. Les said that the electronic consoles are lower in maintenance issues. He noted that our Director of Music, Debra Atkinson, will be traveling to Memphis to view the kind of electronic console Mr. Koziel has recommended and will report back to him. He emphasized that what has been proposed is not an electronic organ but an electronic console which would operate the existing pipe organ. Les also noted that Barger and Nix Organ Company in Chattanooga, Tennessee contacted All Saints' and is working on lowering their bid for the same work in order to retain our business. Les reminded the Vestry that they will be meeting with Pete Rauchenstein of The Rauchenstein Consulting Group on June 22 and he suggested the Vestry could get some guidance from the consulting group about adding the organ repairs and improvements to the 2nd Capital Campaign.

INTERIM RECTOR REPORT:

LaRae asked the Vestry to order the book *Holy Conversations* by Alice Mann and Gilbert Rendle and read throughout the summer. She is currently reading the book and is finding it very helpful as we go into a year of planning and reaping the benefits of planning. As the Vestry prepares to invite a new clergy person into the leadership of the church, she stated we need to begin to think about our style of leadership and manner in which we carry leadership in the church in order to articulate this to a new rector. She asked the Vestry to consider what the role of the new Rector will be as well as what the role the Vestry will play in the new leadership.

BUSINESS:

Chapel Renovation update

LaRae advised the Vestry that the Chapel Renovation Committee had received a bid from Lynn Bryan regarding making the Chapel handicap accessible. She stated that Lynn estimates the cost of his company handling the entire project at \$10,756.62, but that if volunteers were used to tear out part of the flooring, the cost would be lower. She also stated that the window frames in the Chapel are in need of rebuilding due to rot and deterioration at a cost of approximately \$19,000 and the frames of the three round windows in the Church narthex are in need of repair for the same reasons at a cost of \$8,000. She noted that another bid was received from Tim Prewitt of Red Hills Construction, but that his estimate was considerably higher. After a discussion, it was the consensus of the Vestry to wait and get the benefit of Pete Rauchenstein's thoughts about whether this project could be made a part of the follow-up capital campaign, when they meet with him on June 22, 2008.

Organist search update

LaRae advised the Vestry that a job description for our organist position had been posted on the American Guild of Organists website. The description has been sent to area churches as well. She stated that Jessica Nelson, our interim organist, will fill the position until August 15.

Bell Plaques quote

Betty Lee Marshall reported that Gus Staub received two estimates for the bronze plaques denoting the designation of the bells in the Belltower. She stated that the lower cost of the two bids placed the cost of two cast bronze plaques at \$475 total. The cost included shipping but not tax or installation. Betty Lee stated that All Saints' volunteers could install the plaques on the Belltower.

MOTION: (Anger/Duncan)

Approve purchase of two cast bronze plaques for the Belltower at a cost of \$495 plus tax with funding from line 8103-Undesignated Memorials.

APPROVED.

Tree removal

Betty Lee Marshall reported that she received three bids to remove a cluster of dead trees at the back of the Jefferson Street parking lot. The lowest bid was \$1,250 from A-1 Tree Arbor Service to remove the trees and stumps and haul off the debris. After a discussion, the following motion was made:

MOTION: (Anger/Averett)

Approve removal of trees and stumps by A-1 Tree Arbor Service at a cost of \$1,250 with funding from line 8046-John Murrow estate.

APPROVED. (8 in favor 1 against)

Audit Committee update

LaRae reminded the Vestry that the parish's longstanding practice of having its annual audit performed by a parishioner is contrary to canon law, which requires that the audit be performed by an auditor who is independent of the parish or by an audit committee. She advised the Vestry that

she has been in conversation with several area Episcopal churches to determine if they would be interested in trading volunteer auditors, so that independent audits could be performed by someone other than a member of the congregation. To date, she has not been able to find a viable option for a volunteer that is not a member of our congregation to perform the audit. LaRae reported that she spoke with Kathryn Weathersby McCormick of the diocesan office and Kathryn said they would rather have the audit turned in late, than have it performed by a member of the congregation. LaRae recommended that All Saints' contract with an accounting firm with no ties to the congregation. After a discussion, it was the consensus of the Vestry that LaRae call several accounting firms to determine what an independent audit would cost and report back to the Vestry in July.

CHECK-OUT

During check out the Vestry decided to move the next Vestry meeting to Monday, July 7 as LaRae will be on vacation on the regularly scheduled date of July 14.

With no further business the meeting adjourned and The Rev. LaRae Rutenbar closed the Vestry meeting with a prayer at 8:47 p.m.

Submitted by Tommie Moore, Clerk of the Vestry

ATTACHMENTS TO MINUTES OF THE JUNE MEETING:

Financial Report 05/31/08

Capital Campaign Report 05/31/08

Chapel Renovation bid from Lynn Bryan Construction and Red Hills Construction

Search Process Status Report