

## MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE VESTRY OF SAINT MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH November 16, 2005

The regular monthly meeting of the Vestry was called to order by the Rector at 4:35 p.m. on November 16, 2005. All members of the Vestry were present except Bill McIntyre. Guests included Assistant Treasurer David Martin, Stewardship Chair Tricia Barnett, Reverend Anna Neitzel, and Intern Bethany Davidson.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion made and unanimously passed, the minutes of the regular Vestry meeting on October 19, 2005 were approved as submitted.

### STEWARDSHIP

Tricia Barnett gave a report on stewardship to date. Although the total number of pledges received is lower than this time last year, the average gifts are higher. She encouraged the Vestry to pray for a favorable campaign, and the Rector urged that such prayer be accompanied by hard work.

### RECTOR'S REPORT

The Rector called the Vestry's attention to the following matters:

1. The morale of the Parish staff is much improved. We are pleased that Judith Lidberg has received an opportunity and is moving to the Diocese of Massachusetts.

2. Our friends at Canterbury House on the SMU Campus are still adrift as a result of the fire which demolished their building a couple of years ago. The Church of the Incarnation is providing strong support. He urged that St. Michael Parish should also provide such support.

### SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Jeff Rice proposed the Vestry appoint to the nominating committee of the Saint Michael Foundation parishioners Harriett Cousins, Robert Wilson and Bennett Cullum. By motion unanimously adopted the foregoing were elected to the nominating committee of the Foundation.

Kate Juett will chair a kickoff for the Capital Campaign at the Frontiers of Flight Museum in January.

Ms. Rice distributed a copy of the November Vestry Liaison Report and thanked each Vestry person for their good work.

Finally, Ms. Rice noted that yesterday was the 10th anniversary of Father Anschutz being called to the Parish, and presented him a copy of Charles Dickens' "Life

of Our lord," and each member of the Vestry signed the book in celebration of that wonderful event.

## **JUBILEE PARK AND COMMUNITY CENTER**

Arden Showalter presented a new DVD showing the history of Jubilee Center and Park, including the building of the Habitat houses, David's Place Headstart Center, and the activities in the Jubilee neighborhood including the O.M. Roberts Elementary School. The video was by Betsy Katz, and Arden expressed a great thanks to her and to Jennifer Alexander.

## **FINANCE**

Treasurer Giffen Weinmann reported for the Finance Committee. To date in 2005 we are \$399,503 better than budget. About half of this positive variance is from the delay in hiring in the Youth, Mission/Outreach and Administration departments vs. budget, along with the timing of payroll costs. The remaining is from favorable timing of receipt of revenues and payments of capital maintenance expenses vs. budget. As a result, it is not expected that the surplus will remain at this level through the end of the year. Mr. Weinmann noted that he expected that cash balances would be positive during November (the traditional seasonal low point). Mr. Weinmann also noted that the Stewardship effort expects to exceed its budget for the year (and that the budget was put in place prior to the Stewardship Chair being appointed). Mr. Weinmann reminded those present that the Finance Committee and the Vestry must approve all planned expenditures in excess of budget. A discussion of the policy took place and the Rector noted that he was responsible for ensuring that all departments followed the policy and took responsibility for the Stewardship overage.

Mr. Weinmann informed the Vestry that the Finance Committee had begun the 2006 budgeting process. In conjunction with reviewing the 2006 budget, the Finance Committee noted that the Diocese had announced that they were phasing out outreach giving from the Diocese. As a result, the Finance Committee felt that the formula used to create the outreach budget had become outdated, and that Allen Lassiter had volunteered to work with the Outreach Committee, the Rector and other interested parties to review the formula and make a recommendation of proposed changes as part of the 2006 budgeting process.

Mr. Weinmann presented a motion to increase the Facilities Audit (capital maintenance) budget for 2005 by \$16,000 to cover the initial engineering costs associated with the boiler replacement project. After discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

## **VESTRY LIAISON REPORTS**

The Senior Warden again thanked the Vestry members for their good liaison activities. Howard Templin reported that he had been requested to find the cost for placing a temporary building on the land owned by St. Michael on the north, and he found that it would cost up to \$160,000 for a 5,000 square foot portable building. No recommendation was made and no action was taken.

## KATRINA RESOLUTION

The Rector reported that the 100 homes have been completed in the Dallas area and it was now time to turn our attention to mission and outreach. Reverend Anna Neitzel, and Intern Bethany Davidson reported that they had flown to Mobile, Alabama and then driven to the Gulf Coast of Mississippi where 280 homes were destroyed and the Coast Episcopal School in Long Beach, Mississippi was hit by the eye of Hurricane Katrina. Operating in the building is Camp Coast Care, an organized and effective relief response where many volunteers from all over the country have set up shop to assist. There are some 170 volunteers, including physicians who see 100 patients a day. Anna and Bethany showed photos of the relief efforts at Coast Episcopal School led by Headmaster Paul Stephens. Anna and Bethany urged that St. Michael and All Angels should do something to assist the volunteers in place, to send a mission team of ten Parishioners to go every month to help rebuild the Episcopal School and surrounding community.

Upon motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Vestry asked that committees and instructors be created to send Parishioners at their own cost to Mississippi, and that the Vestry support the activities of the mission and outreach group to create an outreach program on the Gulf Coast of Mississippi.

## CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

Sharon Alexander distributed a revised edition of the Discretionary Funds Policy which is better organized than its predecessor, and is brought up-to-date with a description of the use of Discretionary Funds. Upon motion, the new Discretionary Funds Policy was adopted unanimously.

Ms. Alexander also showed a DVD video entitled .Choose This Day,. featured at the recent Anglican Communion Network Conference hosted by Bishop Robert Duncan in Pittsburgh.

Ms. Alexander reported that the status of rebuilding Canterbury House is very uncertain, and motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed that the Wardens of St. Michael write a letter to the Bishop of the Diocese asking that St. Michael be permitted to participate, along with Church of the Incarnation and the Diocese in the rebuilding and restoration of the Canterbury House and Chapel on the SMU Campus.

There being no further business to come before the Vestry, the meeting was duly adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Robert Hyer Thomas, Clerk