

Vestry Minutes
R. E. Lee Memorial Episcopal Church
September 19, 2011

The regular meeting of the Vestry of R. E. Lee Memorial Church was held Monday, September 19, 2011, at 5:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall of the church.

Present: The Rev. Tom Crittenden (chair), Mary Doyle (Senior Warden), Melissa Cox (Junior Warden), Alexandra Brown, Suzanne Carmichael, Doug Cumming, Don Ellis, Tim Gaylard, Judy Glick, Sarah Lanford, Howard Pickett, Steve Riethmiller, Gloria Smitka, Mary Webster, Don Whittington, and Gail Dick, (clerk). **Absent:** Punky Dod

Opening and Prayers: Tom noted current prayer concerns and opened the meeting with prayer.

Approval of August Minutes: Stand as published.

Committee Reports:

- **Finance:** Tom distributed the Statement of Revenue and Expenses prior to the meeting via e-mail. Don Whittington noted that revenues are up by about \$10,000. August was the first month this year in which pledge payments did not meet the monthly projection. At last reporting (the end of August) free will offerings were \$2,000 ahead of projections so far this year. Expenses are \$12,000 under budget thus far which is good. There was a large electrical bill in August thought to be due to the greater use of the air conditioning. Property expenses are o.k. The Finance Committee has talked about sending out thank you letters to those who answered the call to increase their pledge to cover the chaplain's position and other needs. The pledged revenue of the proposed budget for the 2011-2012 year has been increased from \$391,000 to \$410,000 just to maintain the current 2011 figures. The non-pledged revenues for the upcoming year will be reduced resulting in the need for an increase of 10% from all parishioners in order to balance the budget.
- **Stewardship:** Howard said that Tom started this week off well with a good sermon on Stewardship. Judy and Bob Glick held the first of several cottage meetings last night. He noted that 75 parishioners have signed up to attend the cottage meetings. Next Sunday there will be a lay stewardship sermon given by Steve Grist. There will also be pledge packets on the patio for pick-up. The following Sunday, October 2, will be the feast of Marc Nikkel. Pledge packets will again be on the patio. After the Vestry meeting this evening, Vestry members will remain to sign the stewardship canvass letters.
- **Property:** Steve reported that there were eight lights above the altar that needed to be replaced. They were replaced with LED lights. A light over the organ was also replaced. Initial work for the meditation garden/playground project has begun. According to Tom, the goal is to have the playground completed by November. When that is complete, the meditation garden work will start. Last week Steve received a call that the new roof was leaking. After investigation, it was found that it wasn't the roof but rather the caulking around one of the lines from the condenser had cracked and water was seeping in through that crack. It was repaired and the leak was fixed. There has been no water in the undercroft or in the tower after the recent heavy rains. Don Whittington commented that he had given some information to the committee regarding handicapped ramping for the patio area. The committee has not reviewed that yet but will at their next meeting.

New Business

No new business

Old Business

- **Meditation Garden:** As noted above, the meditation garden project is scheduled to begin in November when the playground portion of the project has been completed.
- **Vestry Elections:** The outgoing members of the Vestry are Mary Doyle, Tim Gaylard, Judy Glick, Sarah Lanford, and Don Whittington. Thus far there are four people who have agreed to stand for the Vestry for the upcoming three year term. They are Erika Brooke, George Brooke, Julia Grossman and Marcy Orr. Tom and the nominating committee would like to have 9 or 10 candidates. Tom discussed voting procedures with the Vestry and asked for their input. Last year there was some discussion about the voting procedure which consisted of publishing the qualifications for eligible voters in advance and having a list of those eligible voters on the voting table and checking their names off as they voted. This caused some problems for some people. Tom asked if the Vestry thought that should be done again this year or go back to the way it was done two years ago of publishing the criteria in advance and doing away with the voting roster. After some discussion **Suzanne Carmichael moved that the criteria be published in advance and the voting roster be eliminated. Doug Cumming seconded. Passed unanimously.** The following clarification was given by Tom regarding the qualifications in order to run for the Vestry vs. being able to vote for the Vestry candidates:

QUALIFICATIONS FOR VOTING

- Confirmed communicant or adult baptized members (16 years and older) Active in the worship and life of the congregation
- Financially support the church
- Meet the above qualifications for at least three months prior to voting

QUALIFICATION FOR CANDIDATES FOR VESTRY

- Adult confirmed communicant of the parish, at least 18 years old
- A current pledger
- A regular worshipper in the Parish for at least 12 months

Comments by the Wardens

- **Mary Doyle, Sr. Warden:** Mary thought it would be beneficial to note those parishioners who had declined to stand for the Vestry. She listed several people.
- **Melissa Cox, Jr. Warden:** No comment

Comments by the Rector

- **Meet with the Rector:** The next meetings with the rector will be Sunday, October 9th at 9:15 a.m. and Tuesday, October 11th at 12:00 p.m.
- Tom shared that he has been asked to do a regular Episcopal Eucharist at Kendal. He is considering this and perhaps can combine it with his regular weekly bible study at Kendal. Another weekday is also a possibility.

Judy Glick noted that the estimated day of arrival for the new parish directory is September 26th.

The next meeting will be Monday October 17, 2011 at 5:00 in the Parish Hall.

Howard closed with prayer.

The business part of the meeting adjourned at 5:50. The Vestry then gathered to sign the canvass letters.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail G. Dick, Clerk