

Vestry Minutes
R. E. Lee Memorial Episcopal Church
October 18, 2010

The regular monthly meeting of the Vestry of R. E. Lee Memorial Church was held Monday, October 18, 2010, at 5:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall of the church.

Present: The Rev. Tom Crittenden (chair), John Milford (Senior Warden), Judy Glick (Junior Warden), , Jay Crawford, Doug Cumming, Punky Dod, Mary Doyle, Tim Gaylard, Elizabeth Harralson, Sarah Lanford, Julia Littlefield, Dick Rathmell, Steve Riethmiller, Gloria Smitka, Don Whittington, and Gail Dick, (clerk). **Absent:** Suzanne Carmichael. **Vestry Elect Members present:** Don Ellis, Howard Pickett, and Mary Webster.

New Members Welcome: Tom welcomed the new members to the Vestry who will begin their terms in January 2011.

Opening and Prayers: Tom asked for any prayer concerns and opened the meeting with prayer.

Approval of September Minutes: Stand as published.

Committee Reports:

- **Finance Committee:** Don Whittington went over the current financial statements. He noted that free will offering income is down. Don praised Woody Sadler for obtaining a \$10,000 Helen and Charles Patterson Grant to be used for the repointing. Natural gas expenses and maintenance expenses are up for the year, probably due to the severe winter. September revenue and expenses are close. No significant change in the Funds Report. Tom gave an updated report on the all member canvass. 87 pledge cards have been returned indicating \$215,000 being pledged which is 55% of the goal. Of these 87 pledges, 42 have increased their pledge, seven have decreased, 31 remained the same, and there are seven new pledges. Don mentioned that there had been some discussion at the Finance Committee meeting about the special offerings at Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. Rather than inserting envelopes into the bulletins, perhaps an announcement in the bulletin two-three weeks prior would be a more economical way of handling this.
- **Property Committee:** Don Whittington gave Steve a report on the repointing this evening and Steve asked to defer on reporting on the repointing because he had not had time to review this report.

Steve said he had received a call from Kay stating that the water bill last month was about \$1000 which was the same as the previous month and was thought to be due to the pressure washing during repointing. With a second bill in the same amount, it was thought this was not the case. Steve called Stanley Dudley and Mr. Pruett to evaluate the situation. It was discovered that there was a water line break between the meter and the church. Mr. Dudley has pinpointed the leak and has also noted that a gas line comes in very close to the water line so Miss Utility must be called. Mr. Dudley said he could fix the leak on a weekend, but Steve noted that this weekend would not work because of the bazaar. When the leak is fixed, a credit will be applied to the next bill.

Steve asked Mr. Pruett about adding hot water to the sink in the sacristy. He will do so when he gets another matter of his own fixed.

Stucco has been put on the wall by the driveway. Gordon Woodcock and Tom approved a gray stone to be put over the stucco.

Steve will be contacting someone to repaint the sign outside the front of the church.

It was noted that there is a loose stone on the steps in front of the church. Steve said that John Friedrichs was to repair that. He will call him again.

Tom gave thanks to Bob and Judy Glick for securing the kneeling cushions at the altar rail with heavy duty Velcro.

John Milford noted that it had been brought to his attention that the fan over the pulpit is not working. Tom noted that it works on high but then the sound comes through the microphone. Steve will contact an electrician to check on this.

Mary Doyle noted that the back pew in the chancel still slants forward.

- **Vestry Elections:** Elizabeth brought up a concern about the recent Vestry elections. She noted that some of the Vestry members had met with Tom prior to the election and it was decided that a list of eligible voting parishioners be at the voting stations. This presented a couple of problems with people who believed they should be on the list and were not. This process will need to be fine tuned for future elections. Tom mentioned that there were approximately 158 people voting. When the Vestry voting was combined with the Annual Meeting in the past, there were approximately 60 people who voted.

New Business:

- **Capital Campaign:** Elizabeth noted that at the meeting where the Trustees approved the request for Gadsden funds this year, the Trustees suggested that it is time to begin planning a capital campaign to meet the many needs of the two buildings. The trustees feel it will take two or three years to plan and organize such a campaign. It was the unanimous consensus of the Trustees to recommend that the Vestry begin this process.

Tim Gaylard asked if it were true that the organ is in need of major repairs. Tom said he and Daniel agree. Tom estimated that the cost to continue improvements on the Parish House, patio, roof, etc. and to exclude the cost of the organ would amount to approximately \$600,000. Tom would like to hear directly from Farris about his thoughts on starting a new campaign at the next scheduled Trustee/Vestry meeting on October 25, 2010 before the Vestry votes on this issue.

Old Business:

- **Gadsden Trust Agreement:** The next meeting between the Trustees and the Vestry will be held October 25, 2010 from 5:30-7:00. Co-chairs of the Gadsden Committee will be in attendance.
- **Episcopal Signage:** Elizabeth is still trying to work out with landowners to have a sign "The Episcopal Church Welcomes You" placed on their property at the four entrances to Lexington City. She has obtained permission from two landowners at the east and west sides of town. She is still attempting to find a location for a sign north of Lexington.

Comments by the Wardens:

- **John Milford** thanked the Nominating Committee for obtaining a great slate of people willing to stand for the Vestry. He thanked Sarah and Elizabeth for manning the voting tables and Punky and Mary Doyle for counting the votes.
- **Judy Glick** reported on Boy Scout Troop 29. The scouts had a table at church this past Sunday where they sold popcorn and peanuts. Judy and Mo Littlefield went to their meeting last month. Mo is working with the scouts and their service projects to earn badges.

Comments by the Rector: Tom reviewed the staff changes that have been made and said they are working out well. Kay has had more time to help him with pastoral care concerns. Susan Compton is doing well preparing the bulletins. On the college parents' weekends, Tom is asking that all loose offerings go to the College Work Program. Gloria asked if the parents and students/cadets could be

recognized by Tom during the service. Tom agreed that is a good idea and said that Kay would need to be sure to put that in his announcements for the day.

The monthly meetings with the Rector and available Vestry members will be Wednesday, November 3, 12:00 p.m. in the Welles Room and Sunday, November 7, 9:15 a.m. in Kay's office.

With there being no further business, Tim Gaylard closed with prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 6:35.

Next meeting will be November 15, 2010 in the Parish Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail G. Dick, Clerk