

Minutes of a Regular Meeting  
Of the Vestry  
Of St. James's Episcopal Church, Richmond  
January 19, 2010

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A regular meeting of the vestry of St. James's Episcopal Church was held on January 19, 2010, pursuant to proper notice of time and place. Vestry members attending were Mrs. Eleanor Angle, Mr. Dick Bennett, Mr. Ron Cain, Ms. Jane Dowrick, Ms. Althea Frederick, Mrs. Pam Goggins, Mr. Bill Gregory, Ms. Barbara Guvernator, Mrs. Cary Milley, Mr. Thayer Montague, Mrs. Beth Moore, Mrs. Ann Rawls, Mr. Pierce Rucker, Mr. Mark Shuford, Mrs. Bobbie Smith, Mr. Scott Ukrop, and Ms. Elizabeth Ware. Mr. Rich Walker was absent. Also attending was the Rev. Randolph Hollerith, the Rev. Whitney Zimmerman, Mrs. Anita Lisk, Mrs. Betty Molster, Ms. Nancy Warman, Mrs. Poconna Thiel, and Mr. Chip Woodson. Invited guests attending were members of the Strategic Planning committee. Mr. Hollerith served as chairman, with Mrs. Lisk serving as secretary.

The meeting opened at 5:00 p.m. with a service of Evening Prayer. The business of the meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. On motions made, seconded and unanimously approved, the agenda was adopted and the Minutes of the December 15, 2009 Vestry meeting were approved. The Vestry welcomed the members of the Strategic Planning committee.

COMMENTS & CONCERNS

Mrs. Rawls commented that the recent Martin Luther King, Jr. Evensong was fabulous.

Mrs. Smith expressed her thanks to David Jennings, Facilities Manager, for taking care of many "unnoticed" things around the buildings, such as purchasing the flags in Valentine Hall and "Slow – Pedestrian" signs for the street. Mrs. Smith also asked for prayers for her son, Matthew, as he returns to another tour of duty in Iraq.

NEW BUSINESS

An outline for the Strategic Plan was distributed. Mr. Hollerith thanked the members of the committee, Stacy Brinkley, John Hart, Tom Horton, Pim Jager, Ginny Poindexter, Pierce Rucker, Mark Shuford, Mason Beazley, Stevie Toepke, and Lilo Ukrop, with the assistance of Woodi Sprinkel as Facilitator, who have spent so much time and effort over the last year developing the plan. The committee has developed a plan based on what they discerned was the mind and will of the parish. The process included:

- 1) Offering many small group discussions, facilitated by committee members
- 2) Designing a survey, which was sent to the congregation online and available in the narthex, to gather further information
- 3) Processing the information gathered to help determine the congregation's interests and dreams for the parish
- 4) Spending time in retreat to distill the information and begin discerning the best approach for the plan

- 5) Breaking into subgroups to solidify the four specific areas that came from the discernment
- 6) Writing and discussing several rough drafts in order to develop the draft presented to the Vestry at this meeting

The four areas in the plan were presented, as follows:

- 1) A Home for Worship – presented by Stacy Brinkley
- 2) A Center for Study – presented by Mark Shuford
- 3) A Heart for Service – presented by Ginny Poindexter
- 4) Strengthening Our Foundation – presented by Lilo Ukrop

The draft of the Strategic Plan was distributed and Vestry members were encouraged to read it after the meeting and send any feedback no later than January 29. The committee will adjust the plan as necessary and will present the final draft for Vestry approval at the February meeting, with the expectation that the final plan will be presented to the parish at the Annual Meeting on February 28.

Mr. Hollerith noted that this Strategic Plan included a new mission statement, purpose, and vision for the church:

Mission

To live as Doers of the Word worshipping God and serving others to build Christ's Kingdom

Purpose

To proclaim the good news of God in Christ  
To seek and serve Christ in all persons  
To strive for justice and peace among all people

Vision

The fulfillment of Christ's Kingdom on earth

Mr. Shuford remarked that, while the Vestry is ultimately responsible for the achievement of the Strategic Plan, it is something to which the whole parish needs to commit and not just the current staff and Vestry.

Mr. Hart said that the committee believed that St. James's should strive to increase its budget to \$4 million and that, unlike previous fundraising for "bricks and mortar" projects, this plan is to build our hearts for God.

Mr. Rucker reminded the Vestry that the plan is a five-year plan and could be a "parish changing" document.

Mr. Bennett said that he was humbled by the work of the committee and the Vestry expressed its appreciation to the committee.

Mr. Hollerith said that Mrs. Sprinkel will lead the Vestry retreat on March 20 to help the Vestry determine how it will approach the implementation of the plan.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Mr. Hollerith introduced and welcomed Mr. Chip Woodson, who has been hired as the Director of Stewardship and Development, and thanked Mrs. Molster for once again serving as an interim where needed.

The Annual Giving report was distributed. The campaign is going well, with the average gift increasing over last year's, and may finish with an increase overall. Mrs. Goggins requested that Vestry members volunteer to help make calls to those who had pledged last year but hadn't yet for 2010.

The Fan the Flame report was also distributed. Pledge payments continue to be received and it is expected that only about \$5000 more than anticipated will be spent on the building project.

#### FINANCE REPORT

Mrs. Rawls distributed the usual monthly reports. She anticipates ending the year about even, with about \$15,000 saved from expenses, but less than expected revenues collected. Monies used from the cash reserves have been repaid.

Mr. Cain thanked Mrs. Rawls, Mrs. Thiel and Mrs. Molster for their excellent service and particularly commended Mrs. Rawls for her three years service as the chair of the Finance committee. Mr. Cain suggested the Vestry consider changing the church's fiscal year to end June 30.

#### WORSHIP AND EDUCATION REPORTS

Kent Duffey, Director of Children's Ministries, submitted a written report. The "Growing in Faith" elementary school-aged children's rotation model is going well and Mrs. Duffey and the superintendents will meet in late January to choose the scriptural lessons for next year's curriculum.

#### OUTREACH REPORT

Nancy Warman, Director of Servant Ministries, submitted a written report, highlighting the results of the several Christmas ministries, including CARITAS, and announcing the beginning of St. James's new partnership with Goodwill Industries and the Virginia Credit Union. The program is called "Good Choice" and it is an alternative program to payday lending which features a lower cost comprehensive financial education program, one-on-one coaching, and a financial incentive for borrowers who complete a financial education program.

#### MISSIONS REPORT

Ms. Zimmerman asked for prayers for Haiti in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake. At this time, St. James's mission trip to Haiti scheduled for early March is still going, but that may change if there isn't an infrastructure in place to support mission teams by then. Ms. Zimmerman promoted the upcoming Mardi Gras for Missions, so that a large gift to Haiti can be sent from monies raised. The national Episcopal Church, through its Episcopal Relief and Development, was collecting substantial funds for relief efforts and Mr. Hollerith reported that approximately \$7000 for Haiti relief had been collected from the loose plate offering from all services on the Sunday following the earthquake.

## FELLOWSHIP

### ECW

Mrs. Angle reported that the original keynote speaker for WomanKind, Nora Gallagher, was unable to come but author Anne Lamott, who was the keynote speaker for WomanKind four years ago, has agreed to return. Several hundred women are expected for the weekend.

## BUILDINGS & FACILITIES REPORT

### TNT

Mrs. Moore reported that the renovations to Gibson Hall are nearly complete and the Children's Center plans to move back into the building the week of February 8.

### Facilities

Mr. Ukrop reported that the committee is studying the HVAC systems in both buildings.

## SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

On behalf of the Nominating committee, Mr. Cain reported the following slate of nominees for three-year terms on the Vestry: Jan Harris, Scott Hetzer, Monty McFadden, Dena Moore, Nancy (Newnie) Rogers, and Stephen Watts.

Mr. Cain thanked Vestry members Mr. Bennett, Ms. Dowrick and Mr. Shuford for serving on the committee, as well as Ida Farinholt, Randy Hutcheson, Mary Kulp, Bobbie Ukrop, and Tamra Wilt, who also served.

## RECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Hollerith thanked the Vestry class of 2010 for their service: Ronald (Ron) A. Cain, Jr., Thayer Montague, Elizabeth (Beth) C. Moore, Ann Rawls, Pierce Rucker, and Barbara (Bobbie) Smith.

Mr. Hollerith agreed with Mrs. Rawls, and remarked that approximately 550 people attended the recent Martin Luther King, Jr. Evensong, which featured the St. James's Parish, West Gallery and Youth Choirs and the Norfolk State Choir under the direction of Dr. Carl Haywood. In addition to the inspiring music, the highlight of the event was Mr. Wilbert Drummond, who read Dr. King's "I Have A Dream" speech. Mr. Drummond was homeless and sleeping in the alcove by the church's kitchen door when Dr. Mark Whitmire and the choir "adopted" him. Mr. Drummond is now in an apartment and employed but continues to do odd jobs for Dr. Whitmire and several choir members.

Mr. Hollerith noted that the February Vestry meeting will be later in the month than usual, as the Mardi Gras for Missions fundraiser will fall on the regular meeting date.

The Assistant/Associate Rector search will begin soon and Mr. Hollerith is establishing a search committee to help him with the process, anticipating that a new member of the clergy team will be called to begin in June.

The attendance figures for the month of December were distributed and Mr. Hollerith called attention to the dates of upcoming events on the reverse of the agenda.

OTHER

Mr. Shuford encouraged Vestry members to attend The Listening Room, which now meets monthly in the basement of the Michaux House. The community has embraced this opportunity to gather and listen to excellent acoustic musicians, with attendance growing at each event.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

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Anita Lisk  
Clerk

Approved:

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Rev. Randolph Marshall Hollerith  
Rector

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Ronald A. Cain, Jr.  
Senior Warden