

Hickory Neck Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes
May 8, 2007

Present: Fred Boelt (Treasurer/Senior Warden), Bill Teale (Junior Warden/Stewardship), Ann Dieterle (Associate Rector), Sue Dugan (Pastoral Care), Nancy Geddes (Youth), Lynn Geddy (Parish Life), Chuck Jundt (Outreach), Connie Kendrick (Worship), Mayes Mathews (Strategic Planning), Don Seeterlin (Buildings & Grounds), Paula Simmons (Christian Formation), and Lauris Zeni (Newcomers) **Also Present:** Melissa Casheros, new Vestry member by appointment

Absent: The Very Reverend Michael Delk (on sabbatical)

I. Vestry Check-In:

Vestry members shared personal news since the last meeting in April.

II. Opening Prayer and Meditation:

Informally led by Eve Gee, who will lead June's meditation.

III. Approval of Vestry Minutes:

On motion of Mayes Matthews and seconded by Paula Simmons, and agreed to unanimously, the minutes of the Vestry meeting of April 10 were approved.

New Vestry Member Commissioned (New Business item):

Senior Warden Fred Boelt announced that the following New Business item would be taken out of order:

According to the ByLaws of Hickory Neck Episcopal Church, the Vestry is directed to appoint an individual to fill out the rest of a term vacated by a sitting Vestry member. In the case of the vacancy on the Vestry occasioned by Katrina Luksovsky's family move to Florida, the Vestry it was proposed that the Vestry appoint Melissa Casheros to serve the remainder of Katrina's one-year term.

[Melissa can stand for election in her own right at the next Vestry election, either to a one year or three year term because she will not have served 2 years prior to the election.]

Subsequently, on motion of Fred Boelt and seconded by Bill Teale, Melissa Casheros was appointed to the Vestry, was duly commissioned and welcomed by all.

IV. Parishioner's Comments and Initiatives: There were no parishioner

comments or initiatives.

V. Treasurer's Report:

Fred Boelt reported that the Operating Fund was in good shape, although the expenses may look over budget, but will come into line once the Workmen's Compensation phase is completed. The Easter offering income totaled \$7,827.

One item of concern is the status of the Capital Campaign. The next to the last building fee was just paid to Henderson, but we still owe \$1,700. We will owe Tony Cassanave \$1,590 for the cross and kiosk when the kiosk is completed.

As if today, we have \$8,100 in the account for the Building Fund. If we pay the minimum of \$4,200 on the mortgage and the \$900 interest on the demand note, we will see the income level dwindling. The outstanding balance is \$90,000 and, at this point, we have reason to believe that we will not see more than one-half of that come in from donations/pledges.

The Building Fund is reaching a level where we will not be able to meet expenses.

Mayes Matthews will be putting up a visual thermometer in the Narthex of the Building Fund progress and there will be articles in the Nuggets and the Epistle. Although this is not a surprise, we must keep in mind the \$4,200 payment on the mortgage. Even though the interest on the demand note is going down, we do not see any large donations in the offering. By December when the balance is due on the demand note, we may have to roll it over. Given that, perhaps the Vestry should be pushing for a 4th Year Capital Campaign.

Mayes Matthews reminded that we have 93 percent in hand of Capital Campaign Fund pledges, but is not optimistic of recovering the remaining 7 percent pledged. The percent we have in hand is higher than the 85 percent the consultant told us we could realistically expect to get.

By motion of Chuck Jundt, seconded by Paula Simmons, and agreed to unanimously, the Treasurer's report was approved.

VI. Junior Warden's Report:

Bill Teale reported that he had been talking with Hope Brans about a new Pictorial Directory. There is a database system (costing approximately \$65) that allows for the production of directory photos (in black and white) which can be updated and the photos realigned. This method is cheaper than outside companies producing color photos and allows for in-house flexibility for updating as the congregation grows.

Time and Talent forms have been produced and are ready. Since the old database will not convert to the new format, all members of the parish (not just Newcomers) will be asked to fill out the new form and submit it to the office for inclusion in the new

database.

VII. Senior Warden's Report:

Fred Boelt reported that the Personnel Committee completed its work on Fr. Delk's five-year review.

Fred also reported that Defibrillator training had begun with eight individuals trained so far.

VIII. Associate Rector's Report:

Reverend Ann Dieterle submitted her report to the Vestry as follows:

"Christian Formation

"Sunday School Teacher and Student recognition will take place on Sunday, June 10th at the 10:15 hour. All are invited. Teachers will be recognized at any service that they attend.

"Ms. Maria Kane will teach a class on the Gospel of John on June 3, 17 & 24th. We'll take a 'sabbatical' and observe fellowship only during the month of July, and the schedule will resume in full during August.

"There are several people who are 'graduating' from EFM this year. There will be a short graduation celebration during the 9 a.m. service, tentatively scheduled for Sunday, June 24th. EFM participants will be invited to write a paragraph about what EFM has meant to them and their journey as disciples, which will be included as a bulletin insert. This will recognize the discipline and hard work of the 'graduates,' but will also be a recruitment opportunity for the upcoming program year. I am in conversation with current mentor Daniel Wetta as well as others about whether or not we should plan for a second EFM group when the program resumes in the fall- as enrollment filled up last year.

"Youth

"The spaghetti dinners sold out in record time this year, raising approximately \$400 for the Relay for Life. The car wash is scheduled for May 20th, which will complete the group fundraising efforts of the youth for the spring of 2007.

"Pastoral Care

"The Lay Pastoral Visiting program and scheduling is running smoothly, and we will continue to fine tune and correct mistakes as we move forward. We have found that there is still some uncertainty about what a LEM is, and so there will be a concerted effort at additional publicity and education including Nuggets articles and adult formation sessions in the early fall.

"Other

"There is a diocesan youth leader gathering scheduled for Saturday, May 12th from 9 – 5 here at Hickory Neck. We will use the parish house or the narthex of the new chapel, depending on the number of attendees."

IX. Rector's Report :

The following Rector's reported by submitted by Fr. Delk just prior to his departure on his sabbatical:

Average Sunday attendance, since last meeting –207

Average Sunday attendance in the last period between meetings –224

No New Member(s) by Letter of Transfer, since last Vestry meeting.

Transfers out of the Parish since last Vestry meeting: Joe and Liz Hagy (moving to North Carolina).

Burials since last Vestry meeting: Claudia Gardner—14 April (interment pending)

No marriages since last Vestry meeting.

Calendar events, since last Vestry Meeting:

4/11—4/22-----Dieterle AWAY

4/12—4/15-----Men's Cursillo

4/14—Gardner Burial Office

4/15—New Member Orientation, 3 pm

4/19—2nd Flight of Parish Visioning Process Small Groups began

4/27—4/29---Women's Cursillo

4/29—Lampert Baptism

5/7—Delk SABBATICAL begins

Upcoming Calendar Events:

5/17—3rd Flight of Parish Visioning Process Small Groups begin
5/17—Ascension Day Eucharist, 7 pm
5/20—Guest Preachers from Food for the Poor
5/26—Memorial Service for Don Wirt, 11 am
5/28—Memorial Day---OFFICES CLOSED
6/8—6/9---Relay for Life, Jamestown High School
6/10—Sunday School Teacher and Student Recognition—10:15 am

X. Team Ministry Reports:

A. Christian Formation Report:

Paula Simmons submitted the following team ministry report:

*"[Attached are the **attendance** numbers for the Nursery, Children's Chapel, and children's Sunday school classes (see attachment A)].*

*"The **Christian Formation Committee** members are: Toni Small (Sunday School Superintendent), Stephanie Delk (Godly Play Materials), De Fehrenbach (Curriculum & Staff), Paula Simmons (Vestry Liaison), and Ann Dieterle (Associate Rector).*

"Additional (3rd) Godly Play Class for the Fall

We have ordered approximately 2/3 of the materials (~\$1000.00), and some have already arrived. As she did for this year, Stephanie Delk anticipates asking parishioners to help us with the rest of the wooden pieces.

"The old nursery needs to be cleaned up soon. That room will be our storage space for current as well as new materials. Stephanie will reset the classes this summer for the 2007-2008 year. The classrooms will be moved this summer as well (most likely mid to late June) with the 3-5th grade class moving to the old high school room (beanbag room) and the new Godly Play class being in the current 3-5th grade room (placing all 3 Godly Play classes in a row).

"De Fehrenbach has begun to recruit more teachers to staff all the rooms. We are not quite finished with staffing, but we are doing very well for this point in the year.

"Year-end Sunday School Celebration

"Sunday School Recognition will be Sunday, June 10th during the Sunday School time in the Parish House. We will celebrate the year with certificates and small gifts for the children, gifts for the teachers, a photo presentation, and cake and punch. Amy Miller and Carol Shutt are helping with organizing the event. Pete Haines will create a photo show.

"As De reported, 'It has been a good year and the classes have gone well. Our children are in the rhythm of Children's Chapel and Godly Play and there is a nice aura I think.'

"Nursery

"Linda Becker is overseeing the nursery staff. The nursery staff includes one paid worker. We try to maintain a volunteer staff of two additional people in attendance each Sunday. However,

we have only five volunteers in the pool which means most volunteers need to work twice a month. We want to expand the volunteer pool.

Snacks and supplies appear magically. Linda believes that all our nursery workers love their mission and find much joy in caring for our angels.

"Linda and Paula are addressing the issue of giving the nursery workers the opportunity to take communion, either by going into the nave or by having it brought to them.

"Healthy Families Training

"After reviewing the office records, I am in the process of making sure that all Christian Formation paid and volunteer workers have completed Healthy Churches (youth) training and that their certificates are on file with the HNC office.

"Vacation Bible School

"The joint Episcopal Vacation Bible School between Hickory Neck, St. Martin's, and Bruton Parish will be at St. Martin's. It will be August 6-10, 9:00 a.m. to Noon. It is open to children ages 4-years-old through rising 4th graders.

"The Western theme is Avalanche Ranch: A Wild Ride Through God's Word. "Kids take part in daily challenges that encourage them to apply Bible Truths to everyday life. They learn that God is real, God with us, God is strong, God is awesome, and God is in charge. Bible stories include: Rahab protects the Israelite spies (Joshua 2); Israelites cross the Jordan River (Joshua 3-4); Jericho's walls fall (Joshua 6); Jesus dies and rises again (Mark 15-16); and God heals Naaman (2 Kings 5)."

"Registration forms will be available this Sunday, May 13th.

"We need adult and teen volunteers to tell wild Bible adventure stories, coordinate snacks, work on recreation, help with crafts, organize the Operation Kid-to-Kid Mission Project, participate in the Wild West Theater, or take pictures for a PowerPoint finale. Volunteers are to contact me and I will coordinate our efforts with Ann Myer at St. Martin."

Melissa Casheros inquired about the possibility of bringing the smaller children from the Nursery in for communion and then taking them back. Paula will discuss this with Pastor Ann.

B. Youth Ministry Report:

Nancy Geddes submitted the following team ministry report:

"Hickory Neck Church continues to maintain a small core of middle school and high school attendees at Sunday evening youth group meetings. There is also a tightly knit, yet small, group of adults—most especially Pastor Ann Dieterle – that continue to contribute towards youth formation, fun activities, Sunday evening youth dinners and general adult direction. The Saturday outreach component, headed by Karen and John Dutro, also continues to offer youth outreach activities in the form of Lenten Soup Suppers and Relay for Life activities.

"This spring, through involvement in the Lenten Soup Suppers, the Hickory Neck Youth raised \$545.00 to be applied to mission work in the Sudan. Although fewer youth participated in these events than in the past, each Lenten Soup Supper was a thoughtful, smooth and fun activity.

"The next high visibility group activity will be held on May 20th when the Annual Car Wash to benefit Relay for Life will take place during the three Sunday morning services. Of course, the Hickory Neck Heavenly Hikers will be involved in the Williamsburg Relay for Life to benefit the American Cancer Society.

"There will be no Sunday evening youth group programs on May 13th (Mother's Day) or May 27th (Memorial Day Weekend). Youth group participants will have a year-end celebration party.

"We anticipate another great road trip to a baseball game this season and also plan to involve the youth in appropriate functions/responsibilities during the Fall Festival in September.

"Participant numbers notwithstanding, there is a dedicated Youth Group program at Hickory Neck. Our general events and Sunday evening formation meetings reflect a healthy and inquiring environment. This foundation may be successfully expanded upon as continued growth takes place within our congregation.

"Thank you to everyone who has so generously contributed to our youth.'.

XI. New Business

The Vestry discussed the choice of followup question for the third flight of Parish Visioning Process Small Groups. Following this discussion, Bill Teale moved that the 3rd flight of PVP Small Groups receive an email from Pastor Ann Dieterle indicating that the 3rd flight should discuss and distill what had been discussed in the prior flights, concentrate on discerning what items of their discussion should be considered the highest priority, and groups should receive/review only those notes generated by discussion in their particular group. The motion was seconded by Mayes Matthews and passed unanimously.

XII. Old Business:

Fred Boelt reported that the organ fund balance from donations received to date is \$12,527. Phase I repairs to the organ have totaled \$7,385, which leaves a remainder in the fund of \$4,692 toward Phase II. That means we would need an additional \$ 7,308 to fully pay for Phase II. A 10 percent deposit for Phase II would be required before work could start.

After discussion, Mayes Matthews moved that HNC proceed with Phase II of the organ repairs, using funds from the Davenport Fund to temporarily provide the additional \$7,308 required, but that the need for additional donations to complete the funding for Phase II be advertised and announced in the Nuggets, the Epistle and by a general publicity blitz. The motion was seconded by Melissa Casheros and passed unanimously.

Senior Warden Fred Boelt reminded the Vestry that there were no ministry reports scheduled for June, but that the Vestry would be glad to receive any questions or informal reports relative to the Fall Festival.

XIII. Other Business:

Mayes Matthews moved that the "average Sunday attendance" item in the Rector's report attendance numbers be for calendar months, rather than for interval between Vestry meetings. Further, that those numbers be stated in the form of comparative monthly attendance numbers (last year vs. this year), year-to-date attendance numbers, and Sunday School attendance numbers. The motion was seconded by Chuck Jundt and passed unanimously.

The next meeting of the Hickory Neck Vestry will be held on Tuesday, June 12 at 7 pm.

Pastor Ann concluded the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Eve Butler-Gee, Register