

Hickory Neck Episcopal Church

Vestry Minutes

June 13, 2006

Present: Fred Boelt (Treasurer/Junior Warden), Michael Delk (Rector), Ann Dieterle (Associate Rector), Sue Dugan (Pastoral Care), Nancy Geddes (Youth), Lynn Geddy (Parish Life), Connie Kendrick (Worship), Chuck Jundt (Outreach), Katrina Luksovsky (Newcomers), Brian Manning (Buildings & Grounds), and Bill Teale (Outreach). Donna Casanave (Parish Life), and De Fehrenbach (Formation), were absent.

I. Vestry Check-in:

Vestry members shared personal news since our last meeting.

II. Opening Prayer and Meditation:

Bill Teale shared an interesting meditation on the Gettysburg Address and the Twenty-third psalm.

III. Approval of the May Minutes:

A motion was made to approve the May Vestry minutes, seconded and passed unanimously.

IV. Parishioner Comments and Initiatives:

A. Update of historic chapel restoration – Martha McCartney

Martha McCartney and vestry members inspected the historic chapel so that she could point out

structural defects due to deteriorating brickwork in the rear of the building found when she and

Mark Wenger did a recent inspection. She further shared safety concerns in the interior such as

inadequate lighting and exits in the event of fire. Restoration issues were also discussed. Mark

who has been with Colonial Williamsburg for over twenty years, has agreed to work with Martha on restoration plans of the Historic Chapel on a pro-bono basis. Martha said that the building is actually a mixture of different periods

thus; exact historical specifications will not need to be met. Fr Michael and the vestry thanked Martha for the diligent work that she has been and will be doing in the preservation and restoration planning pertaining to the original church. In further discussion after the tour, the vestry agreed that structural integrity and safety are of primary concern over any future aesthetic improvements.

V. New Chapel Report:

Fr Michael reported that the punch list will be submitted on Friday the 16th of June. He

explained that this list will address any last minute issues completion of the building and then

application for the PO (permit of occupancy) will be submitted. Throughout the following

week many different people will be working in the building so that all will be ready for the

consecration on the 24th of June.

VI. Treasurer's Report:

Fred Boelt reported that the budget is looking good and that \$1,150.00 was made in jewelry sales to benefit African Team Ministries. Fred distributed an income statement for the period ending May 31, 2006 as well as a complete listing of expenditures on the new chapel as of June 6, 2006. He also reported that due to a bequest, we've been able to borrow less money and that we'll end up with two loans – a twenty year commercial mortgage loan in the amount of approximately \$600,000.00 in which the interest rate cannot be settled until the project is completed, and a demand note for the difference between the amount pledged on the building and the amount actually received to date. Also it should be noted that the new chapel will likely come in slightly under budget which is a considerable accomplishment.

VII. Junior Warden's Report:

None

VIII. Associate Rector's Report:

Reverend Ann Dieterle reported that our High School youth will be making a mission trip to Onancock to repair buildings and perform other work as necessary. The youth will be commissioned on Sunday, June 18th.

IX. Rector's Report:

Average Sunday attendance, since last meeting – 197

Average Sunday attendance in the last period between meetings – 198

New Members by Letter of Transfer, since last Vestry meeting:

Melody and Wayne Ashmore

Rick and Ann Chlebos

Ron, Monique, Katie, and Jackson Condon

Dennis and Claudia Gardner

Ann and Art Johansen

Baptisms, since last Vestry Meeting: -- 28 May

Grace Addison Ashmore

Diana Alexandra Molnar

Victoria Jane Molnar

No Burials, Marriages, or Transfers Out of the Parish, since last Vestry Meeting:

Calendar Events, since last Vestry meeting:

- 5/20 ... Ultreya at Mathews' Farm, 5:30p.m.
- 5/21 ... Youth Car Wash for Relay for Life
- 5/25 ... Ascension Day Eucharist, 7:00p.m.
- 5/28 ... Molnar & Ashmore Baptisms, 9:00a.m.
- 5/29 ... Offices Closed in Observance of Memorial Day
- 6/4 ... The Feast of Pentecost
- 6/11 ... Church School Recognition Sunday, 10:15a.m.
- 6/11 ... New Member Orientation, 3-5pm

Upcoming Calendar Events:

- 6/17 ... Keating/Wirt Wedding, 4:30p
- 6/17 ... Ultreya, 6:30p
- 6/18 ... Youth Commissioning for Mission Trip, 9 & 11:15a
- 6/23 ... Consecration Rehearsal, 7p
- 6/24 ... New Chapel Dedication and Consecration, 3p
- 6/24 – 6/25 ... Visit from Missionary Lauren Stanley
- 7/4 ... Offices Closed in Observance of Independence Day

Fr. Michael told the vestry that Bob Gay feels called by God to ordained ministry. A vocational discernment committee has been formed to facilitate Bob in his spiritual journey.

X. Ministry Team Reports:
A. Parish Life

Parish Life Highlights

The Past Six Months through the Looking Glass

The ministry of Parish Life seems to expand more each year. As stated in the 2005 report due to the continued increase of new members to Hickory Neck it is imperative that we communicate needs & opportunities to engage everyone in the special events that are enjoyed by most in the parish. Naturally with a growing congregation come additional challenges as well as responsibilities. Thus, the Hickory Neck vestry decided to add another member, Lynn Geddy, to serve in this ministry and this has proven quite successful.

Lynn has been greatly effective in keeping the parishioners abreast of activities, holding meetings in an effort to identify leaders and recruit new members, noting upcoming opportunities in the church bulletin and sending reminders out via email. This sense of teamwork is very reassuring and comforting throughout the year but especially during the busy seasons of Christmas and Lent.

The parish life calendar was marked by many wonderful celebrations as well as some sad occasions as we have lost some beloved members. I am proud to say that at each turn our congregation is there to support each other in a loving manner.

A grand reception was held in honor of Ann Dieterle's Ordination! We at HNC do like to eat and be merry! It was evident in the joy that filled the air and the parish house to capacity as we all shared in this awesome event in the Reverend Ann's life.

Following the beautiful youth Christmas Pageant a simple reception of cider, sugar cookies and candy canes was held in the parish house. This year it was held in the early evening. This format seemed to work well as we were still able to worship together in the morning and celebrate Christ again in the evening without displacing parishioners.

Coffee Hour service was adjusted to beverages only due to the growing time and cost involved each Sunday. The first Sunday of each month when we offer thanks & blessings for those having a birthday or anniversary baked/bought items would be served to add to the festivities. There will also be two people assigned on this Sunday to lighten the work. We have also added to the roster of those willing to assist in this aspect of ministry.

Mardi Gras Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner was well attended. It was decided to be held at the Toano Women's Club since the space at the parish house would not be able to accommodate everyone. This proved to be a wise decision as 143 people enjoyed themselves on short stacks & sausage! Not even the loss of power could damper the evening as music, masks, beads, chocolate coins & gum led up to two Mardi Gras Kings, Pete Haines & little Benjamin Delk, being named. The 2006 kings will be responsible for bringing the cakes for next years dinner.

Easter is controlled chaos at HNC as the young and old alike enjoy the grand egg hunt. We shared great fellowship stuffing an undeclared (LOTS & LOTS) number of plastic

eggs with Christian stickers and toys. This year a goodie bag was given to each child filled with candy, coloring book and toothbrush/paste! The adults enjoyed cake and coffee as the children search the grounds high & low for treasure.

Popcorn Theology provided lively discussions as well as tasty meals. After discussing several options it was decided that the first meal would be offered by the Parish Life team. Simple menus were suggested for the following weeks and the class participants signed up to bring various items. Disposable paper & plastic were provided by parish life team.

Upcoming events:

Church Consecration held on June 24, 2006 at 3pm! A light reception of baked goods and punch to follow this greatly anticipated event!

Church Picnic – Date to be determined? Parish Life team to supply disposable paper & plastic supplies as well as hamburgers & hotdogs. All other items such as salads, drinks & desserts are to be brought by parishioners to round out the menu.

Future challenges may arise as we strive to utilize the new Church building. Full congregation dinners may need to be catered or held off site with kitchen facilities.

I am sure whatever lies ahead we will meet the challenges as we always have – in a respectful and loving manner.

Thanks be to God!

Faithfully,

Donna Casanave

Lynn Geddy

B. Worship

WORSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

The purpose of the Worship Committee is to aid and support the clergy in upholding a vision of spiritual growth for the congregation through worship. The various guilds of the Worship Committee work in conjunction with the rector's plans for the mission of the church worship throughout the year. This includes our regular worship services, the church's seasonal programs and special occasion services.

This committee provides direction for the guilds of the church – acolytes, altar, Heavenly bread bakers, chalice bearers, Children's Chapel, Festival Flowers, greeters, home visitations, lay readers, lay worship leaders and ushers who function for the weekly, special and seasonal services. We do not hold committee meetings on a regular basis but meet as needed.

As our congregation has grown in our church during the past year, the various guilds have remained well organized and consistent in their duties. Training is done as needed and written guide material is available for everyone. Following their training, the persons are recognized in a commissioning service developed by Reverend Delk. Volunteers are always needed and relied upon to participate in all of the church's guilds, not just worship. Overall these volunteers are very

committed Christians as they realize these ministries are to God and our church and are an honor to be a part of.

The remainder of 2006 will bring further needs to enlarge the membership of the guilds as we begin holding worship services in two church sanctuaries. The growth of our parishioners' weekly attendance means we must continue to be ever ready to minister to everyone weekly, and especially at special services.

I am always available if the leader of a guild has a problem that needs to be talked about and solved.

ACOLYTES –

When we begin to hold services in the new chapel, Brian and Bruce Manning are planning to have two acolytes at the 9:00 and 11:15 services. The enlarged sanctuary will require two acolytes to function smoothly within the larger area.

ALTAR GUILD –

This guild has 15 very dedicated ladies that serve on a rotating basis with a partner. As we grow we will need to recruit new members. I plan on attending the New Comers gatherings to seek any ladies wanting to serve on the altar guild. I have worked with Father Michael in recent months while ordering supplies and paraments for use in the new chapel.

CHILDRENS' CHAPEL

Children's' Chapel needed a new leader upon the resignation of Alita Small. Jean Hancock will assume the responsibility for this role. I have been working with Stephanie Delk and Reverend Ann Dieterle concerning the program for this group. The class needed new material to work with Sunday mornings so Stephanie and I picked out workbooks that are age appropriate. The books were ordered from Agape in Newport News.

USHERS –

Oliver Kendrick was elected at the last meeting of the ushers as Usher Captain. He has organized the ushers at the three services in teams of two. This number may change as the services move into the new chapel. The ushers will have to learn the new format of the congregation receiving communion in the "butterfly pattern" and how to collect the offering from four aisles. He has worked with Father Michael on some of the preliminary changes.

Before the consecration of the new chapel on June 24 all of the guilds will be holding a final rehearsal on June 23 at 7 p.m. to enable the members to adapt themselves to the new space. Some guilds will probably have individual rehearsals. It will take several worship services before parishioners; guild members and clergy will be comfortable with our new place of worship.

Connie Kendrick (Worship Committee)

C. New Business:

- a. Fred Boelt made a motion to authorize disbursement of funds in the amount of \$14,775.00 for renovation of the Parish Hall interior which includes the replacement of the temporary panels of Ed's and Fr Michael's offices with a permanent wall as well as the expansion of Gini's office. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
- b. The personnel committee met with Ann+ on Monday evening and recommended that her base salary be increased by 2%. A motion to approve this action was seconded and passed unanimously.

D. Old Business:

None

E. Other Business:

Brian Manning voiced continuing concerns pertaining to the security of the Parish House building in that doors must be double-checked when locked as at times, the locks do not catch properly. Also, the issue of extra keys was addressed. Work will continue on resolution of this predicament. In the meantime, the vestry members were advised to exercise extra care when locking up and to pass the word to others using the building.

F. Concluding Prayer:

Fr Michael led the vestry in prayer at the close of the meeting.

The next regular meeting of the Vestry will be on July 11th, 2006 at 7:00pm in the Parish House.

Faithfully submitted:

Phyllis Faas, Registrar