

Hickory Neck Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes
July 10, 2007

Present: Fred Boelt (Treasurer/Senior Warden), Bill Teale (Junior Warden/Stewardship), Ann Dieterle (Associate Rector), Melissa Casheros (Stewardship), 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)

Absent: The Very Reverend Michael Delk (on sabbatical); Sue Dugan

I. Vestry Check In:

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

II. Opening Prayer and Meditation: Bill Teale led the opening prayer and meditation.

III. Approval of Vestry Minutes: On motion of Lauris Zeni and seconded by Paula Simmons, the minutes of the Vestry meeting of June 12 were approved.

IV. Parishioner's Comments and Initiatives: Fred Boelt announced that he had received an email from Aaron Small announcing that there will be a Community Leadership Service Service Class for 2008. (It is from which HNC learned about the PIPE project). He will be bringing applications for next year's class to HNC.

Fred also mentioned that the attendees at the 8 am service have requested a return to the use of the small silver chalice used prior to the construction of the new chapel. They report that the pottery chalice currently in use at the 8 am service is awkward and communicants are having trouble receiving the wine without bumping their noses.

After discussion, it was agreed that the little chalice would be returned for use in the Historic Chapel for the 8 am service temporarily until another arrangement can be made.

V. Treasurer's Report: Fred Boelt reported that the organ fund only lacks \$2,500 to meet the goal for financing the remainder of the funding for Phase II repairs.

The Building Fund did not make expenses last month—income was \$4,800, but normal expenses for the Fund are \$5,100 per month. We are presently trying to keep it going from reserves to the Building Fund.

Mayes Mathews suggested that there should be a meeting of the Capital Campaign

Follow-Up Committee this month.

On motion by Don Seeterlin and seconded by Connie Kendrick, the Treasurer's report was approved.

VI. Junior Warden's Report: Bill Teale reported that of the 231 families on the list, 97 photographs have been taken. Also, only 52 Time and Talent forms have been returned and the data base cannot be completed until all the forms are in.

Melissa Casheros suggested that an electronic form of the Time and Talent form be attached to the Epistle.

Bill reported that the 1,000 business cards printed with HNC information have been ordered at a cost of \$60.

Bill also reported that Jan Brown from Spirit Works was the speaker at the Outreach Committee meeting. Spirit Works runs programs for recovering alcoholics, addicts and their families. Spirit Works receives support from HNC and the people helping at the facility are funded by a grant given by Henderson. They are solicited additional grants and Spirit Works Foundation has an excellent website (spiritworks.org) and newsletter.

Bill reported that 17 people from HNC will attend the Vibrant Life Dinner at the Ukrops (Mooretown Road) upstairs meeting room. The cost is \$30 per person, with \$5 going toward the dinner and \$25 to Vibrant Life. Thus far, Vibrant Life has received over \$100,000 in grants and is now in a position to have round-the-clock counselors. Roseanne Brennan and Bill Teale are doing training sessions on Friday nights on job interviewing skills and other guidance for mainstreaming into the job market.

The Diocesan mission trip to Mississippi will include 4 or 5 HNC kids. There will need to be an adult from HNC to accompany them. The cost per participant is \$350. The need to raise funds for the kids' attendance comes at the same time as the Stewardship Campaign, but it is hoped that there will be some special donations to fund their trip.

Bill announced that he and Fred Boelt had met with the new Treasurer of the Diocese of Southern Virginia on July 10. The Treasurer expressed his understanding and support for the work and mission of HNC and of the contributions of new building and funding which the people of HNC have made over the last two years.

Finally, Bill praised Pastor Ann Dieterle for an outstanding sermon the previous Sunday and commended it to the Vestry's attention (print off the website) if they were not present to hear it.

VII. Senior Warden's Report: Fred Boelt has consulted with Hope and asks that all Vestry committee chairpersons place their regular committee meetings days and times on the calendar outside Hope's office door, or email/call her so that she can track these

gatherings as part of the overall monthly calendars at HNC.

Fred reported that some HNC tapestry pillows had been order per Sue Dugan's inquiry at the last Vestry meeting about selling them at the Fall Festival.

For those who have expressed an interest in a possible Labyrinth at HNC, Fred reported that Lauris Zeni has offered to speak to Joan Forest for more information.

For those who have notice little pink flags in the field in the right front of the New Chapel, an explanation will be published in this week's Epistle. When the land was acquired and the site plan was done, an expansion of the existing cemetery was part of that site plan. These flags represent Phase I of the cemetery expansion. Plots are not yet ready to be offered for sale but may be available for sale in the Fall.

In response to an inquiry from Mayes Mathews, Fred explained that there is a Cemetery Fund intended for perpetual care of the graves. The Operating Fund does pay for the cutting of the grass; and in response to an inquiry from Connie Kendrick, the cost having ashes placed in the Memorial Garden is \$150, which includes the additioin of the deceased name to the plaque in the Garden.

Fred mentioned that there is some interest in exploring the possible future construction of a Columbarium and information on this is being compiled for study.

VIII. Associate Rector's Report: Pastor Ann submitted her report as follows:

"Calendar Items

"June 13, 2007 – VAST Meeting

June 17, 2007- Graduation Recognition (Marta Zoellner and Joseph Banks)

June 21, 2007 – Convocation Meeting, Bruton Parish

(Michael Delk elected to Nominating and New Ministry Committee)

June 23, 2007 – Wedding, Jeffrey Olsen & Nina Starkova @ William & Mary Alumni Hall

June 30, 2007 – Funeral, Enoch Argyle Haley, Historic Chapel

July 1, 2007- Miller Goodbye/Geddy retirement. Diocesan Youth Mission Trip Meeting (here)

July 12, 2007 – Vibrant Life Ministries Banquet

July 13-14, 2007 – Dieterle Away (Mr. Bob Gay and Rev. Jeff Seiler on call)

July 16, 2007 – VAST Meeting

August 5, 2007 – Blessing of the Clowns, 9 a.m. service only. Reception to follow in the Parish Hall.

"Christian Formation

Between now and the next Vestry meeting, I will be putting together the Christian

Formation schedule for the fall. In addition to Sunday morning adult offerings, there will be an increase in mid-week opportunities. If you have any ideas of classes you would like to take (or teach!), please let me know (all requests will be taken seriously, although no guarantees can be made).

"Youth

The youth celebrated with an end of the year party on Saturday, June 30th. Regular activities will resume again after Labor Day. Plans are under way for a planning retreat sometime in August. Ms. Pam Maddox-Jefferson has enthusiastically agreed to be a youth advisor.

"Pastoral Care

***Disaster Volunteer Day.** There will be a training opportunity this coming Saturday, July 14th at Liberty Baptist Church in Hampton, from 8:30 am – 3:00 pm. We have had several conversations regarding a Disaster Preparedness/Response Ministry at Hickory Neck. I have forwarded the information to parties I thought would be interested. The deadline was July 1st, but if any vestry members are interested or know of anyone who might go, a phone call might open a slot, as the notice was received well after the date cut-off date.*

"Other

I have requested several changes to the way substitutions are made to the Sunday duty roster. Persons now report changes directly to Hope Brans, who compiles them and sends them to Steve and Nancy Snyder for publication in the E-pistle. The up-to-date duty list will be posted in the vesting sacristy where all servers are asked to sign in. In addition, the server designated as LCB #1 will serve as 'verger' and will make sure that all servers are present, and, in the case of an absence, will recruit from a list of available substitutes. This will greatly facilitate the transition from the 8 a.m. to the 9 a.m. service and free the Priest to greet worshippers and set the Missal."

In addition, Pastor Ann reminded the Vestry that Sunday, August 5 is the Annual Blessing of the Clowns at the 9am service (only). Clowns will do the readings and play a major part in that service. Pastor Ann may ask 8 am congregation to worship in the Historic Chapel that Sunday.

Pastor Ann expanded on her written report regarding the Convocation's election of Fr. Michael to the Nominating and New Ministry Committee by describing the responsibilities of that committee, which include nominations of representatives to Council and the transition of the new Bishop into the Diocese.

Pastor Ann highlighted for the Vestry that she will be away Friday, July 13 and Saturday, July 14 for a family gathering, but will return in time for Sunday services. Meanwhile, Fr. Jeff Seiler will be priest-on-call and will preach on Sunday. Bob Gay will be available

for Pastoral Care needs.

Pastor Ann called the Vestry's attention to the item in her report regarding Disaster Preparedness Training on July 14. If it is not too late, interested persons can contact the office via email.

IX. Rector's Report: Due to Fr. Michael absence on sabbatical there was no Rector's Report.

X. Informal Ministry Reports: Although there were no formal ministry reports scheduled for this month, the following informal reports were made:

VAST Committee: Pastor Ann reported that the VAST Committee met on June 13 and will meet again on July 16. That will be the last meeting before Fr. Michael returns from his sabbatical. Cleve Corlett continues to train committee members to distill and detect trends as part of the compilation of the Parish Visioning Project responses.

Parish Picnic: Lynn Geddy reminded about the Parish Picnic on August 12, beginning at 5 pm. Bring side dishes, hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided.

Godly Play Diocesan Training/Meeting: Paula Simmons reported that five people from HNC attended the Diocesan Godly Play training. Melissa Casheros and Paula shared how inspiring Godly Play can be for adults as well as children. Pastor Ann shared that it was used at the School of Theology at the University of the South (Sewanee) as part of the Lenten program and was very powerful.

HNC Book of Remembrance: Connie Kendrick showed the Vestry the almost completed wooden and glass case, built by Ollie Kendrick's friend, Jim Johnson, which will house the Book of Remembrance in which all the tangible gifts to HNC have been recorded by Ollie. The case will be on display in the Narthex, lighted and mounted at eye level on the wall with the King painting so all can read the pages. Pages will be turned so that each Sunday or so another page can be viewed.

Fred Boelt recommended that the wood be stained mahogany to match the wood in the New Chapel (ambo, rail, etc.).

The Vestry asked Connie to commend Ollie for his hard work and expressed anticipation at viewing the final product.

Buildings and Grounds: Don Seeterlin reported that the gates to the dumpster have been secured temporarily so that they are not a hazard, but that they will ultimately need to be replaced by 6 x 6 wooden support posts with wheels which are adequate to

the size and weight of the gates (the present wheels are far too small). He has received a bid of \$2,100 to redo these gates, but is holding that for the future.

Don also reported that the doors between the Narthex and the Nave of the New Chapel have been fixed and are now closing as they should.

XI. New Business: There was no new business to come before the Vestry.

XII. Old Business: Fred Boelt announced that Don Seeterlin had obtained a bid from Cox-Powell of \$6,736 to add a humidifier to the HVAC system in the New Chapel. This bid is considered on the high side and other bids are being solicited, including one from Christian HVAC in Hanover.

There was a question raised as to whether a dehumidifier might also be necessary in certain circumstances and if a combination humidifier/dehumidifier combination should be installed. Don will explore this with Ed Godshall as regards the organ.

XIII. Other Business: There was no Other Business to come before the Vestry.

The next meeting of the Hickory Neck Vestry will be held on Tuesday, August 14 at 7 pm.

Pastor Ann concluded the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Eve Butler-Gee, Register