

**St Joseph of Arimathea
Vestry Meeting Minutes
03/17/10**

Present: Father Jody Howard, Bill McMinn, Cora Janson, Thom Chittom, Jeanne Rose, Nell Nestor, George Fossey, Kim Waltenbaugh, JoAnne Kemp, and John Broome.

Not Present: Sarena Pettit, Paul Love

The meeting began at 6:30 PM with an opening prayer led by Father Jody, followed by a presentation on “Congregational Size Dynamics.”

The minutes from the 02/24/10 vestry meeting were read and approved with a revision

Information Items

Father Jody announced that he will be attending the Cooperative College for Congregational Development from June 26th to July 3rd.

He informed the vestry that a presentation about sexual conduct entitled “Safeguarding God’s People” will be held on April 20th at St. George’s Church, Nashville from 6-9 PM. He requested that members of the vestry who had not already attended this presentation try to make it to this event as it is a requirement for vestry members.

Priest’s Report

Father Jody distributed the Priest’s report to the vestry. He announced that he will attend a clergy colloquium from April 13th-15th followed by three days of vacation.

The following statistics of attendance for the past three Sundays were provided:

Service	High	Low	Average
8:00 AM	28	20	25.3
10:30 AM	79	60	71.6

Father Jody noted that there had been a steady increase in attendance and that there had been several visitors.

Discussion Items

A discussion was held over issues pertaining to hospitality funding. Complaints had been voiced to vestry members about asking people to pay for hospitality via an offering bowl at the table. It was suggested that this was off-putting to visitors and that donations could be made in less intrusive manners such as through an envelope or a list of items that a parishioner could pick up if they did not have the means to provide full hospitality for a Sunday. Other issues included kitchen supplies and how much food needs to be brought when providing hospitality.

Father Jody tasked the Hospitality Commission with defining what the basic requirements for providing hospitality should include. Those who feel it is their ministry to provide extensive hospitality should be guided towards hosting special Sundays.

The review of St. Joseph's Fund Raising Policy that was tabled last year was brought back up for discussion by Father Jody and a draft copy was distributed to the vestry. Nell Nestor explained the background issues on why it had been raised last year, such as the problem of repeatedly going back to the same well (overtaxing certain members of the congregation). Father Jody instructed the vestry to read the policy and email any suggestions to him so that he could get revisions to Paul Love.

A release form for youth events was distributed for the vestry to review for inclusion in the Operations Manual. The vestry thought it was a good idea and Jeanne Rose suggested that an additional section covering allergies be included.

Bill McMinn provided an update on the issue of trash pickup. The current provider refuses to pick up trash that is outside the trash can. Bill has spoken to another company (Allied) and is waiting to see if they will come down in price.

George Fossey suggested that Bill McMinn be given the authority to spend \$500 a year without prior approval to use at his discretion. The money would come from the existing line item for Buildings and Grounds. Father Jody suggested that the vestry consider this proposal and decide at next month's meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Cora Janson provided a report to the vestry informing them that as of 03/17 St. Joseph's has \$79,662.22 in total funds of which \$23,590.24 is in the operating account and \$56,071.98 is in the savings account. All bills presented as of 03/15 have been paid.

Cora reported that the "Rector's discretionary account" has been opened and the funds turned over to Father Jody. Additionally, the Church Pension Fund have provided the monthly pension assessment amount and payments have been made to bring this account up to date.

A check for \$3,258.00 has been sent to the "Second Base Foundation" and Cora expects to send a final check at the end of March after more funds come in.

Members of the vestry expressed their approval and thanks for a new section of the report that Cora has added showing pledges and plate offerings received vs. those budgeted.

Bill McMinn made a motion to approve the treasurer's report as submitted, George Fossey seconded and the vestry approved unanimously.

Decision Items

Father Jody reported that he had approached the Kingsleys about putting together a new Photo Directory for St. Joseph's. They will be donating their time and equipment and have suggested the afternoons of Saturday April 10th and Sunday April 11th as dates that will work for them. Prints will be available at a discounted rate.

Bill McMinn made a motion to have the Kingsleys do the new photo directory, Nell Nestor seconded and the vestry approved unanimously.

Bill McMinn explained the details and history of the Pest Control service that St. Joseph's employs. He said they do a good job and are requesting an increase.

Bill McMinn made a motion that the vestry authorizes an increase to \$40/month for pest control, Nell Nestor seconded and the vestry approved unanimously.

The idea of supplies for the kitchen being added as a line item to the budget was raised by Father Jody. The cost of this was estimated to be about \$60/month. Cora has amended the budget to reflect this and noted that the revised version will be voted on later in this meeting.

It was suggested that the church have a recycle bin. Bill McMinn said he would check into the cost of this.

Father Jody distributed Paul Love's highlighted handout of the Church Insurance proposal comparing current rates with those from the "Church Insurance Company of Vermont". The proposed rate is 16% less than the current rate and provides more coverage. The proposed insurance would also cover St. Joseph's via the blanket insurance that the diocese holds. Father Jody related that Paul wants to see if they can cover workman's compensation and provide numbers. Due to this fact the discussion was tabled until next month's vestry meeting.

Bill McMinn made a motion to give Paul Love, Father Jody, Nell Nestor and Cora Janson the authority to make a decision regarding the church insurance policy, George Fossey seconded and the vestry approved unanimously.

Cora Janson presented the details of proposed amendments to the budget. She noted that we have over-budgeted on health insurance, self employment tax, and pension. Items for which an increase was proposed include building maintenance, utilities, telephone and internet, kitchen supplies, and youth programs (separate item from Christian Ed). Cora explained that these changes result in an additional cost of \$4,224.

George Fossey raised the issue of the need for vestments. It was suggested that this cost should be covered by a special offering rather than a line item.

Cora asked what should be done with the \$600 that had been earmarked for the defunct Anglican Communion Network. In response, Jeanne Rose made a motion to give \$600 annually to the Goodlettsville Help Center, Nell Nestor seconded and the vestry approved unanimously.

JoAnne Kemp made a motion to approve the budget as amended, Jeanne Rose seconded and the vestry approved unanimously.

Father Jody closed the meeting in prayer.

Next vestry meeting: 04/21/10.

Respectfully submitted,

John Broome