

**St. George's Episcopal Church
Meeting of the Vestry
April 30, 2014**

Attendance:

Vestry	Others
P – The Very Rev. Shearon Williams (Rector)	P – The Rev. John Shellito (Associate Rector)
P – Joan Pepin (Senior Warden)	P – Elena Keydel (Building Possibilities Committee)
P – Crystal Hardin (Junior Warden)	P – Michael Woods (Building Possibilities Committee)
P – George DeFilippi (Treasurer)	P – David Grahn (Building Possibilities Fundraising Committee)
P – Toby Walter (Register)	
P – Anna Alt-White	
P – Burr Ault	
P – Hal Bean	
P – Marcia Devens	
P – Nathan Harpine	
P – Melanie Lilliston	
A – Dennis Fish	
A – Kathie Panfil	

Snacks – Crystal Hardin, Devotions – Joan Pepin, Timekeeper – Hal Bean, Lock-up – George DeFilippi

Opening Prayer

The Very Rev. Shearon Williams called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Approval of the minutes

The minutes from the March 19 meeting were approved without amendment.

Update from Building Possibilities Committee (BPC) and Building Possibilities Fundraising Committee (BPFC), Elena Keydel, Michael Woods, and David Grahn

The BPC and BPFC will provide St. George's with a project update in an adult forum on Sunday.

The input received so far suggests the congregation wants an improved worship experience, a more welcoming fellowship space, an improved flow within the facility, and better use of the lawn.

The architect, Geier Brown Renfrow, LLC, has several ideas to improve the worship space in St. George's nave and San Jose's chapel, as well as the fellowship space in the parish hall. There are also plans to create a narthex for better flow, and a fence around part of the lawn.

In May the committees will meet with various ministry areas and conduct group sessions. Horizons Stewardship, a fundraising consultant, will spend the first two weeks of June soliciting the community's interest in various aspects of the project, including the organ. The BPFC hopes to present a feasibility study to the Vestry at its July meeting.

Hal Bean asked if the parish had considered going to the diocese for financial assistance on improvements to San Jose. The Very Rev. Shearon Williams said the diocese did not have such funds at the moment, but that it may be able to procure a small grant at some point.

La Casita Discussion, Elena Keydel, Michael Woods, and David Grahm
La Casita, the house San Jose uses for its offices, Sunday school classes, and other purposes, has fallen into a state of disrepair. While the building is not projected to be part of the first phase of a potential renovation, the architects have identified several issues which they strongly encourage St. George's resolve immediately. They are particularly concerned about egress; the exterior staircase is in poor condition and there is only one way to get in and out of the basement.

Elena Keydel said that Manhattan Contracting would have cost estimates for the necessary repairs in the next few days. The Very Rev. Shearon Williams proposed that the estimates and the general assessment of the building be forwarded to the Buildings & Grounds Committee as they become available. The Vestry accepted Shearon's recommendation.

Liaison Report, Nathan Harpine, Outreach Committee Liaison

The Rev. Stephen Rorke has recently stepped down as associate rector for outreach. Committee Chairman Paul Belanga will also vacate his position in June. St. George's is on the lookout for Paul's replacement.

The parish has expanded its involvement with external organizations like A-SPAN and VOICE.

Many of St. George's outreach volunteers have been active in the ministry for a long time. The Committee is trying to get younger parishioners involved. One new recruit is HOST Co-Chair Matt Fallon.

Denise Cormaney has joined Gil Terry as co-chair of the Food Pantry. Together with Parish Administrator Melanie Gray, they have started a newsletter, Pantry Bytes.

The people who normally sponsor the Help the Homeless Walk are not doing so this year. Instead, St. George's will have a donation campaign.

Resolutions

Toby Walter made the following motion:

Resolution 4.30.2014-1: Given the need of staff, rectors, congregants, and outside presenters to offer professional quality presentations to large groups in the parish hall and have equipment on hand for presenting elsewhere, the Vestry approves the purchase of a laptop, LCD projector and software for \$1,908.42. [Source of funds: budgeted funds from office line item]

The motion was seconded by George DeFilippi and passed unanimously.

St. George's paid the Rev. Stephen Rorke for a period of 12 months. In order to qualify for a \$17,000 resettlement payment from the Church Pension Fund, he would need to have been paid by the parish for at least 18 months. George DeFilippi made the following motion:

Resolution 4.30.2014-2: Given the pro bono work the Rev. Stephen Rorke did for St. George's when it was without an associate, the Vestry approves the retroactive extension of his contract as associate rector for outreach from October 2012 through March 2013 at a rate of \$200 per month as housing allowance. [Source of funds: 50 % wellness ministry,

50 % operating budget]

The motion was seconded by multiple Vestry members. Joan Pepin proposed the following addition:

The Rev. Stephen Rorke was paying the Social Security and pension contribution that St. George's incurred and will pay that for this retroactive contract period.

Resolution 4.30.2014-2 passed unanimously as amended.

One of the rectory's chimneys is leaking and in urgent need of repair. James Manion, a masonry contractor, noted that the other chimney has some damage as well. He submitted a bid for \$2,090 (\$1,045 upon acceptance and \$1,045 upon completion). Hal Bean made the following resolution:

Resolution 4.30.2014-3: Whereas the rectory chimneys are in need of repair and causing water damage to the ceiling and walls, be it resolved to approve a repair contract for up to \$2,500.

The motion was seconded by Marcia Devens and passed unanimously.

Leadership Reports

Rector, Very Rev. Shearon Williams

Shearon was thrilled by the sense of joy that pervaded the Easter services. She congratulated the Vestry on a wonderfully orchestrated coffee hour.

Last Sunday, 18 St. George's parishioners were confirmed, received, or reaffirmed at St. Paul's, Alexandria.

A lot will take place this Sunday, including recognition of the new confirmands, the building possibilities forum, the Catechesis Liturgy of Light, the Sunday school movie premiere, and an evensong complete with a moonbounce and barbecue catered by Rocklands.

Vestry members' folders in the volunteer room have been replaced by bins on the wall.

St. George's staff would like to rearrange office space. Under the plan, Music Minister Ben Keseley will move his office to the St. George's Room; Urban Abbey listening groups and the counselor who currently rents the St. George's Room on weekends will move to the teacher work room on the second floor; and Ben's current office would become archive space.

Associate Rector, Rev. John Shellito

Five of the high school students in John's confirmation class chose to go through with the process. John thanked Nathan Harpine, who had already been confirmed, for his contributions to the class.

The Lenten scripture study which John co-hosted with Seminarian Grace King was a huge success.

This past Sunday, John performed two baptisms. There was also an adult forum discussing St. George's membership in VOICE, its relationship with San Jose, affordable housing, and other issues.

John will attend a training session for premarital counselors this weekend. He is exploring other continuing education possibilities in June.

July will mark John's first anniversary since coming to St. George's.

Compline

After compline, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Toby Walter, Register