

**The Church of the Epiphany
Vestry Meeting Minutes
Meeting Date: March 13, 2007**

The meeting opened at 7 PM with prayer time, followed by the vestry prayer.

Vestry Members Attendance: Present (P), Excused (E)

Black, Murray	P	Pantzer, Larry	P
Cummings, Ross	P	Reed, David	P
Gregg, Ted	P	Reiter, Scott	P
Holmes, Kevin	P	Stromberg, Margaret	P
Morris, Ralph	P	Ticer, John	E
Oliphant, Mark	E	Welch, Jan	P

Also present: Father Robin, Father Luke, and Babette Arnold.

Committee Reports, Guest Reports, and Old Business:

1. Minutes.

The minutes for the meeting of February 20, 2007 were approved, as amended, by unanimous voice vote on a motion by Margaret, seconded by Ted.

2. Treasurer and Finance Committee Reports – Scott.

In March there was a special gift of \$50,000. In addition, so far in March the contributions from the congregation have been above budget. Praise God! Scott provided a Finance Report handout. In future reports, he will separate legal fees into a separate line. Mary McReynolds has expended the majority of her advance and has requested replenishment. We will consider her letter of request and determine whether replenishment is urgent. We have not yet funded the legal account. David will write a "Chancellor's Corner" for the Star and will remind readers of the account's existence. Among the "2007 Objectives" in the Finance Report, Scott is looking for ways to save money. Ted will work with Ross and Patrick to look for ways to save energy. We should send energy saving and recycling ideas to Ross. The report was approved by unanimous voice vote on a motion by Ted, seconded by David.

3. Rector's Report – Robin.

Robin will talk with Bishop Minns about how Epiphany can help CANA with organizing, building on Robin's experience as Dean. There will be a CANA gathering at Hylton Memorial Chapel on May 5 at which Bishop Minns will be installed as head of CANA. Bishop Akinola and other southern cone primates are expected to attend.

4. Associate Rector's Report – Luke.

We are knee-deep in the Lenten Series – keep coming! The drama workshop will be valuable for lectors and public speakers of all kinds.

5. Wardens' Report – Murray.

Murray has been increasing his networking with other wardens and vestry and has communicated that we are happy to host activities. There will be a welcome to Bishop David Bena as Suffragan Bishop of CANA on March 24 at the Falls Church. All of us should be mingling with the congregation during fellowship. There will be a Vestry table and a roster for staffing it. This needs to be announced. We also need special name tags so that people know who we are. Vestry should also occasionally attend home groups that don't have vestry members. David will determine which ones do not.

6. Chancellor's Report – David.

David handed out copies of a legal plea entitled "DEMURRER, PLEA IN BAR, & MOTION CRAVING OYER." Demurrer is Latin for "so what." The main legal theory of the Diocese of Virginia is that the churches were held in trust for the Diocese. Since Virginia law does not recognize "constructive trusts," this is meaningless. Plea in Bar asks that, since there is nothing in Virginia law providing for responsibility of the Vestry, that part of the case should be thrown out. The Motion Craving Oyer requests some basis on which the Diocese makes its claim, given the above. Both the Diocese and the defendants are asking for consolidation of the lawsuits against all of the churches.

7. Program Director's Report – Babette.

See handout. Babette will send us all a spreadsheet with a schedule of activities for the year. Babette will talk to Larry about Mission Sunday set for June 3 and the possibility of having a separate Sunday dedicated to local outreach later in the year. KidsServe Camp will be open to the community and will be paid for by fees.

8. Alteration of the Articles of Incorporation Papers and By-Laws

Kevin and David are working on getting these into a better form and developing a more complete presentation and explanation to the congregation than was done when they were approved. This could be done at "Parish Update Meetings" on 15 April to take questions and later in the month to provide feedback. Such documents, when final, should go to the Register.

New Business

9. Fellowship – Jan

Jan is getting people to help with Ambassadors and Newcomers meetings.

10. Vestry Retreat Plans

The Vestry Retreat will be held in-house on Friday and Saturday, April 13-14. Friday evening, 6:30 to 9:00, will include dinner, fellowship, and open time for general discussion. Saturday's meeting will begin at 10:00 with worship time in the sanctuary, followed by prayer time with prayer partners, lunch, and a guest speaker, possibly Bishop Minns. The retreat will conclude no later than 3:00 pm.

11. Alteration of Church Calendar for Vestry Elections and Stewardship Sunday

Murray requested the vestry to provide feedback by March 20 on the strong and weak points of each of the three proposals so that he and his committee could consider remarks and put together a final proposal for consideration at the next meeting.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM by unanimous consent to Jan's motion and Margaret's second, and was followed by an Agape feast.

Vestry Meeting Minutes for March 13, 2007

Prepared by Larry Pantzer

Version: Approved