

**St. James Episcopal Church**  
**4620 California Street, San Francisco, CA**  
**Minutes of the September 21st, 2014 Vestry Meeting**

Present: Rev. John Kirkley, Mary Balmana, Giselle Bosc, Doreen Canton, Petrina Grube, Bill Newlin, Elia Pochron, Eleanor Scott, Barbara Webb

Absent: Carla Borsoi, Noreen Huey, Ullrich Schwertschlag

**Solar Project Congregational Forum: American Solar 11:30 AM**

**Reflection on Addressing Declining Sunday Attendance: What 3 things could we do that would the largest impact?**

- Tabled until the October meeting so more time can be spent on discussion

**Report on Ferguson Trip: John Kirkley**

- John reported on his time with the community of Ferguson over the week of September 15th.
- The trip was with other SFOP members to lend support to the community with the issues surrounding the shooting of Michael Brown and ongoing investigation.
- Ferguson is a small town where everyone knows one another, so the grief is personal.
- The populations is approximately 2/3rds black while the the police force and Mayor and Town Council predominantly white.
- The economy is still suffering with high unemployment and home foreclosures.
- Tensions remain high, however the community is becoming organized and empowered.
- Hope for positive change through Voter Registration.

**Old Business**

**Approve minutes of August 24th 2014 Vestry Meeting: John Kirkley**

- Approved unanimously with the following corrections: add Eleanor Scott as Present and delete Barbara Webb as reporting on Financials.

**Debrief Deanery Day: Barbara Webb**

- Held September 7<sup>th</sup> after the 10 AM service and well attended by approximately 30.
- Excellent presentations by David Differding about his experience with the Deanery and Eleanor Scott and Grant Paul on their experiences with the Vestry.
- Nomination ballots will be included in Newsletter.

**Debrief Solar Project Forum:**

- Very good presentation by American Solar as well as follow-up questions.
- Light attendance was disappointing.
- Parishioner were provided details of the due diligence and recommendation of the Solar Power Task Force, concurrence of the Vestry, and details of the American Solar proposal with a “Q & A” were published in the St. James Weekly News, September Journal, announced at the 8 and 10 am services and provided at the forum.

**Junior Warden Report. Doreen Canton**

- A small but mighty group showed up Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup> to help with various projects.
- A lot was accomplished including cleaning the Parish Hall, replacement of non-slip strips on the exterior stairs, checking all Smoke Alarms, repairing of the lytch gate and gardening.
- Progress was also made in documenting Church assets for the Disaster Preparedness Plan. Mary O’Neal whose profession was documenting and valuing antiquities, has joined the committee. Her help will be invaluable.
- The next meeting for the Disaster Planning Committee is scheduled for Monday, September 22

### **Stewardship Report. Doreen Canton**

- Doreen reminded the Vestry it is customary for the Vestry to pledge first.
- Carol Overman will have the Stewardship letter completed by the first week of October.
- Currently have two dates for Fellowship dinners-October 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>
- October 4<sup>th</sup> a dinner is planned to honor the hosts of the Fellowship dinners together with the Legacy Society. To date 4 have responded yes and 4 no
- Sign-up sheets for the dinners should be available within a week or so.
- Pledge cards will go out via e-mail and will include a request for donation of volunteer hours in addition to dollars.
- “Meet The Artist” Fundraiser event is scheduled for Friday, November 14th. To include music, wine & cheese and a \$20 door charge. Elia has several artists identified and looking for more with the focus being on non- St. James members. Artists are asked to donate 15% of sales to St. James.

### **Financial Report: Bill Newlin**

#### **YTD January-August 31st, 2014**

- Total Income is approx. \$40 more than budget while expenses are \$22K less than projected. It is noted half of this is due to the assessment relief.
- The Assessment relief of \$17.5K has been approved. A payment of \$10,000 was made to the diocese while approval pending.
- \$45K is in the Operating Account and current NOI of \$20K. Could possibly end 2014 \$10K in the black.
- The 2013 Audit is scheduled for Monday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>. Erazm will present the financials and answer questions, etc.
- A preliminary 2015 Budget was presented.  
Income:
  - Pledge goal and plate decreased due to lower attendance
  - Special Events increased by \$5K due to Special Event Fundraising
  - Rents are increased overall by about 4.5%Expenses:
  - Overall expenses increased, including diocesan assessments which are based on spending.
  - Plan to request a Diocesan Assessment of \$8,750 (1/2 of 2014 relief) in 2015.Net Income:
  - A \$-12.6 Net Income is projected

### **Other Business**

#### **Calendaring:**

- Parish Picnic Scheduled for Sunday September 28<sup>th</sup> after the 10 am Service at Mountain Lake Park.
- Scott Golde to plan and organize games. Since BBQing is not allowed in Mt. Lake, the plan is to BBQ in the courtyard at Church and transport the food to the Card Shack at Mtn. Lake.

#### **Prayer Buddies:**

Daily or frequent check in with buddy is not expected; the mindfulness and intent to hold our buddy in prayer during the day is felt to be more important than frequency of contact.

#### October Prayer Buddy Pairings:

Eleanor + John  
Barbara + Ullrich + Bill  
Doreen+ Helen  
Petrina + Noreen  
Elia + Mary  
Carla + Giselle

Respectfully submitted,  
Helen Lantz  
Clerk of the Vestry

Attachments:

**Food Schedule**

	<u>Food</u>	<u>Set-Up</u>	<u>Clean-Up</u>
Oct 19	Eleanor	Ullrich	Barbara
Nov 16	Elia	Barbara	Eleanor
Dec 14	Doreen	Elia	Barbara