

St. James Episcopal Church
4620 California Street, San Francisco, CA
Minutes of the August 26, 2015 Vestry Meeting

Present: Rev. John Kirkley, Doreen Canton, Carla Borsoi, Brad Drda, Petrina Grube, Noreen Huey, Eleanor Scott, Ullrich Schwertschlag, Kathleen Walker, Ed Wilcox

Absent: Bill Newlin

Dinner and Check-In

Approval of August 26th Agenda and minutes of June 22nd, 2015 Minutes. Doreen Canton

- Agenda Approved
- The June Minutes were approved unanimously with no corrections.

Sr. Warden Report. Doreen Canton

Recap of July 25th St. James Day Celebration.

- Great attendance and success !
- Special thanks to Mary Balmana for a terrific job organizing and coordinating the reception and dinner after the service; to Elia for decorating the Church and Parish Hall; to Peter Krag for his music.
- Mary Moore and Peter Lawson were touched by the recognition given to them
- There were 6/7 kids who were entertained by a special story teller
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St. James 125th Anniversary- Offsite Gala

- Next Planning Meeting is scheduled for September 6th
- The cost will be \$150 per. Tickets made by Noreen Huey will be ready after Labor Day.
- Planning a small live auction; Carole Jan is working on music.
- Ensure Mary Moore and Peter will be in attendance
- Have raised \$40K towards \$50K goal for special 125th Anniversary Fundraising.
- Eleanor Scott is organizing a “Bouquet of Light” art event scheduled for October 18th 2-5 pm. Invite St. James and community members to interpret selected stain glass windows through floral arrangements and other art mediums. A planning meeting is scheduled for August 30th after 10 am Church. The floral arrangements will be available for sale and photos of the art will be put into a calendar for sale.
- November 1st a Tea will be held in honor of St. James elders. Plan to record interviews with them.

Jr. Warden Report. Brad Drda

- Chairs and floors were cleaned for the 125th Anniversary celebration. Floors should be cleaned every 2/3 years and protective coating re-applied every 10
- The posts in the Parish Hall were painted
- John Kirkley advised there are funds available from the 125th Anniversary Fundraising Campaign to upgrade the bathrooms and repair some of the stained glass windows.

Rector’s Report. John Kirkley

Fall Planning - Christian Education

Godly Play

- Godly Play starts this Sunday, August 30th. Doreen Canton, Grant Paul and Chris Korbuly are trained as teachers. Hopefully a few more will sign up. Goal is to have a story teller and assistant every Sunday. The first Sunday of every month, the kids will be in Church and Rev Kirkley will tell a godly play story during the service.
- The process will be a little different this year with the kids in Church through the opening Collect, then go downstairs for Godly Play, and return to Church for Communion.
- John is meeting with the parents of young children the 2nd Sunday in September after the 10 am service.

Youth Group

- Sarah Montoya has a “draft” calendar circulated for review.
- Confirmation will be the focus for the middle school kids

Adults

- Need to convene a group to brainstorm
- Scheduled or in the planning stages: Peter Lawson discussion of his book “Lifeline for the End of Times: Creating a New Humanity During the Apocalypse and Beyond” , Sarah Bacon author of the Richmond Blog, November Ballot Initiatives, and “Welcome to the Episcopal Church” series in October.

Parish Retreat 2016

- Carla Cooper and Rebecca Wrangham organizing
- 45 spots available at The Webb and Ranch Houses; Pricing and Registration Forms to be available soon
- Sally Winn will lead a book discussion, Liam Goff to lead a music/movement session with the kids, Art project to be developed by Eleanor Scott and Rebecca Wrangham, Saturday night entertainment shaping up.

2016 Pledge Campaign

- John and Doreen have had preliminary discussions. The initial letter and packet should be ready by mid-October. Would like for a member of the congregation to compose the letter.
- Theme: “Connect and Reconnecting to St. James”
- New leadership/energy is needed for the campaign
- Barbara Webb has agreed to organize the “Why I Give to St. James” booklet.

Nominating Committee

- Members consist of outgoing Vestry members Noreen Huey, Doreen Canton, Bill Newlin and Eleanor Scott
- They will seek out 3 new Vestry and Deanery Members.
- John to provide descriptions of the positions.

Other Business

- Gwen Buehrens cracked her hip and will be back on the Rota in October
- The Lily Grant for John Kirkley’s Sabbatical was turned down. John is in the process of rethinking his July- October 2016 Sabbatical. He will spend the month of October at Bishops Ranch as prayer leader and more time with family. How St. James will arrange/pay for substitute clergy to be determined.

Congregational Renewal Task Force. Carla Borsoi

- Carla Borsoi (Chair), Rev. John Kirkley, Blake Hallanan, Carol Overman, and Tracy Thomas are current members of the Task Force.
- Carla shared highlights of the preliminary findings of the survey. Copy attached.
- The Task Force to meet and discuss further, determine next steps and calendar a date to present findings to the Parish.

Financial Report: Doreen Canton/John Kirkley for Henry Scarisbrick

- Erazm and Warren Wong continue to work on the Budget and meeting tomorrow
- The \$8,750 in Assessment Relief was approved and September will be the last payment
- Spanish teacher is returning and will increase the space and time

YTD Profit and Loss July 1- 31st, 2015 and July 2015 Balance Sheet

Balance Sheet

- \$14.2K in cash
- \$192.9K in Endowment Fund

- \$46.7K in Building Fund

Profit and Loss

Income (cash basis)

- Net Income = shortfall of \$23,500. The deficit is higher than expected and includes \$4K deposit for the November 14th Anniversary Event, overpayment of Diocesan Assessment, and lagging pledge income.

Calendaring and Adjourn:

- Date for Congregational Meeting to discuss results of Survey TBD
- Going forward Vestry Meetings will be changed to Wednesday evenings at 7PM.
 - September 30th
 - October 28th
 - November 16th (Monday)
 - December 9th

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.

Same Prayer Buddy Pairings Continue:

John and Helen

Ed and Ulrich

Petrina and Brad

Noreen and Eleanor

Carla and Kathleen

Doreen and Bill

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Lantz

Clerk of the Vestry

Attachments: