

The August 24, 2009 Vestry Meeting was held at St. Francis' Parish Hall and called to order at 7:00 p.m., with Fr. Kelsey providing the opening prayer. Present: Sr. Warden: Brad Bode, presiding, Jr. Warden: Don Eigenberg, Vestry members: Darcy Haslam, Sheryl Spath, Gina Shedd, Don Gable and Chris Kelley. Guests: Priests Bob Manasek and Karen Anderson, Deacon Robert Brown, treasurer Kathy Yates, and Jane Sayre as secretary. Absent: Joyce Walsh. Excused absent: Pati McLellan, and Julie Fancher.

With no corrections noted, **Motion** to accept the minutes of the July 19, 2009 meeting was made by Don Gable, seconded by Chris, and approved.

Financial Reports were presented by Kathy Yates showing no changes on the balance sheet, the P/L report reflecting a slight deficit on pledges to date, but general expense/income pretty close to budget. **Motion** to accept the financial report was made by Chris, seconded by Don Eigenberg, and approved.

Fr. Kelsey announced that he had made a personnel decision regarding the **church secretary** position. Expressing that Rosemary has been incredibly faithful, diligent, and a responsible employee. However, her people skills and the stress the job was causing her were becoming increasingly problematic. After several recent incidences with different members of the congregation resulted in hurt feelings, He decided the situation would not improve. After consulting with the senior warden, he decided to terminate her employment. For now, he intends to do the bulletin himself and utilize volunteers to assist, probably until the first of the year. Further, he asked the Vestry to approve severance pay. After discussion, **Motion** to pay Rosemary salary through September, was made by Gina, seconded by Sheryl, and approved.

Copy machine replacement was brought to the attention of members. Fr. Kelsey has spoken with Broadway Office Supply regarding the present machine, the expense, age, cost and details of the service contract. In so doing it was discovered that the machine has out-lived its expected lifetime by over double, and the service contract is costing 1.5 cents more than a new machine. He proposed buying a new combination printer/copier that will collate and print bulletins ready to fold. After discussion, **Motion** to purchase a lightly used machine with adequate features, and a 280K copy life, for \$2100 from Broadway Office Supply was made by Don G., seconded by Gina, and approved.

Annual Council Deputies was next on the agenda. The council will be November 5, through 7, in North Platte, Nebraska, at the Sandhills Convention Center. We are allowed up to 4 delegates, plus all clergy. Cost will be \$85 – 90 per delegate for 2 nights stay. Volunteers: Debbie Hogue, Don Gable, and Don will check with his wife to see if she would like to go. Kelsey asked permission to contact potential deputies. The Deputies attending need to be confirmed by Sept. 4. Kelsey has also presented a resolution for debate at the council regarding improving communications between the diocese and the churches. He presented his proposal to the deanery at their meeting last weekend.

The search for **Facilitator for visioning process** has not turned up any local possibilities as of yet, but are checking with one person in Ft. Collins, and have other feelers out. It is preferable to have a facilitator who does not know any of the people in the congregation. Kelsey expressed it may take until Easter to complete the entire process, and build a strong plan for development for the next 5 years. After discussion, Gina suggested we bring in a couple of non-vestry people in

on the meeting with potential facilitator candidates. Fr. Kelsey and Gina will meet with a few possibilities and tell them what we're looking for. Bob Brown reminded the group that we are "Looking at trying to improve relationships with each other, and what things we need to do to build, and bring more people in to the congregation."

Kelsey added, "What is God's plan for us, and how do we go about doing that?" He will put together an email regarding "what we're looking for" and send it out to members.

Cursillo is October 15th – 18th in Halsey NE. Recruiting has begun, and those interested need to contact Kelsey or Debbie.

In **other business** Don E. inquired as to status of benzene leak issue coming from across the alley. Fr. Kelsey said they are waiting for the State of Nebraska to report the testing results. Kroeger Foods is the responsible party. It is lined out in state statues what happens next. So, at the moment we are on hold, awaiting the report from the State.

Brad met with John Selzer regarding a little plot of land just west of the lots owned by the church. The owners are interested in selling those 2 lots, and are inquiring if St. Francis wants to purchase the property.

September 19 is the next **Habitat for Humanity** workday. There is interior work to be done, as well as some landscaping.

Darcy inquired about the **Back Pack Project**. Debbie is gathering a list now of those families who wish to receive the assistance packs this year. Darcy said her son, John, would like to help. Gina added that they have enjoyed two very nice dinners with the young families so far, and it is going well.

Don E. noted that ebay merchandise is needed for the auctions. Kelsey will put a notice in the bulletin.

Bob Brown and Don Gable volunteered to put together a list of what signs are still needed for the church and parish hall, and get that moving forward.

With no further business, the meeting was closed at 8:15 p.m. with Karen Anderson offering the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Sayre
Secretary to the Vestry