

ST. MARTIN IN THE FIELDS CHURCH
IN THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF ATLANTA
MINUTES OF THE VESTRY HELD ON
MONDAY, APRIL 20, 2009

Attendees: The meeting of St. Martin In The Fields Vestry was held on Monday, April 20, 2009, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Burgreen Room of Nicholson Hall. Vestry members in attendance were: Mr. John Burton, Mrs. Kathy Evenson, Mr. Allen Hamilton, Mrs. Susan Hamilton, Ms. Beth Holland, Mrs. Jody Kelly, Mr. Michael Kelly, Mr. Sid Oakley, Mr. Sandy Rose, Mrs. Becky Short, Mr. Gene Smith, and School Board Liaison member, Mr. Tim Fitzgerald. Clergy members in attendance were: The Rev. Dr. John F. McCard, Rector, The Rev. Mary K. Erickson, and The Rev. Derwent A. Suthers. Guests in attendance were Mr. George Williamson, Chairman of the Endowment Fund and Mr. Al Talley, Parish Administrator. Unable to attend this meeting were Mr. David Fricano, Mr. Tommy Johnson, Mrs. Fran Pearson, Mr. Vince Vitti, and The Rev. Patrick J. Skutch.

Call to Order: Fr. McCard called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and opened with a prayer.

Certification of a Quorum: Ms. Holland, Clerk, certified that we had a quorum of the Vestry and could proceed with this meeting.

Devotional: Fr. McCard led the devotional that covered the fourth promise of our Baptismal Covenant: *Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself? I will, with God's help.* See attached report.

Blessings: Lisa McFarlin is doing well following her surgery. Ed Johnson and Meek Yung bring their baby to the Sunday 5:30 services. Steve Westby is doing very well. His cancer markers continue to go down and he is doing well on the new program. The Saturday night event of *The Concert in the Park* was wonderful. We also had a great number of parishioners and visitors come through our doors during the Easter weekend.

Presentation of the Endowment Fund--Mr. George Williamson made a brief presentation on behalf of the Endowment Fund. The Endowment Fund was started in 1971 with The Rev. Martin Dewey Gable. We now have a third (3rd) amendment to the Endowment Fund By-Laws, which allows that some members could serve in perpetuity. They would like to make it only for ten (10) years, which would be two (2) full terms of five (5) years each. The amendment requires a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Vestry and the Endowment Fund. The

Endowment Fund also needs the confirmation of the Vestry when new members are elected. They hope to have the By-Law changes approved in May. It is valuable for us to understand what the Endowment Fund does. They have ten (10) elected trustees, two (2) advisory trustees, the Rector and the Sr. Warden. The elected trustees can serve for two (2) full terms of five (5) years each. The full name is the Endowment Fund of the Episcopal Church of St Martin in the Fields. We were encouraged to look at the language of the By-Laws.

The trustees are authorized to make payments of income to the church, the Diocese (5%) and the National church (1%). When a gift is made, the principal is not spent; just the income. The formula used is five percent (5%) of the last three (3) years average of the assets. If the trust fund was dissolved, any remaining funds would come to St. Martin's first, and then the Diocese. Four (4) Vestry members are allowed to serve on the trust fund. They have an annual meeting with secretary and treasurer, and it always requires at least six (6) votes to make things happen. They meet 4 times a year. The current balance in the Endowment Funds is about \$1,250,000.00, which is lower than it was two (2) years ago, but significantly higher than it was ten (10) years ago. At the end of December 2008, it was down about three percent (3%). Mrs. Becky Short and Mr. George Williamson will go off the board on March 31, 2010; Mr. Allen Hamilton and Mr. Bob Hamilton will go off the board on March 31, 2011; Mrs. Irmina Owens and Mr. Andy Beck will go off the board on March 31, 2012, Mr. Sid Oakley and Mr. Sandy Rose will go off the board on March 31, 2013; and Mrs. Joan Goodhew and Mr. Randy Hughes will go off the board on March 31, 2014. A motion was made to approve the Trustees to the Endowment Fund as listed. The motion was moved, seconded and unanimously passed.

Approval of minutes: The Vestry minutes of the March 16, 2009 meeting were reviewed. A motion was made to approve these minutes as written. The motion was moved, seconded and unanimously passed.

Correspondence: None

Report of the Commissions:

A. Administration, Mr. Hamilton, Chair. No report.

B. Executive, The Senior Warden, Mrs. Hamilton, Chair. Alternative ways of making money. Mr. Bill Goodhew advised some members of the Vestry that there is no need to have a new cell tower. We are privileged to have several self-starters on our Vestry, particularly Mr. Kelly, Mr. Johnson and Mr. Fricano. Mr. Kelly is undertaking the challenge of the possibility of a start-up center at St.

Martin's. (See attached report) Some reconstruction would be needed in order to accommodate the facility. They would need use of the building from 7:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. every evening, which means other groups meeting here would lose part of that building. When the new school building is complete, we would regain the Music and Movement room and be able to re-arrange that area, and perhaps then only start out with the ambulatory children. Infants have to be upstairs and the others could be downstairs.

The Dunwoody School for the Arts, Kindermusik, has children from ages 18 months and up. We would like to put the same kind of program in the church. The instructor for Kindermusik classes would be responsible for all hiring employees and teachers. Melinda Mischick's daughter, Madison, has been very impressed with this program. It would be a win-win situation with us taking in rent, with no responsibility.

Mrs. Hamilton will talk further with Mrs. Mary Ann Nama and Ms. Keisha Noel. We would possibly need a 501c3 permit. We need an ad hoc committee to continue to work on this project, which would now include Mr. Kelly, Mr. Rose and an attorney. Mr. Kelly will get more information and bring it back to the Vestry.

C. Christian Formation, Mrs. Evenson, Chair. We need to find a way to deal with the YACs after they leave the J2A program and what ministry they could provide to the church. They hope to meet with Fr. Skutch, the Christian Formation Commission and the Worship Commission and talk with the children to find out how to further their ministry to the church.

The committee met about three (3) weeks ago and had a good meeting with good thoughts. Part of the discussion was about the schedule change, especially with the facilitators of the parenting class, and how to attribute this to the time service change. The children's attendance at Sunday School is down. They also talked about offerings for next year. Mr. John Harrison suggested we might benefit by producing a survey as to who would like to teach what classes. Mr. Harrison is working on a survey to get out regarding adult education. They hope to have another meeting before we break for the summer.

We also need to provide names to Fr. Skutch and Mrs. Mischick, in order to form a group to take care of Rally Day, Advent events, etc.

D. Outreach, Mrs. Pearson, Chair. See attached report.

E. Parish Life, Mr. Fricano, Chair. The Concert for St. Martin *Near* the Fields will be held on Saturday, April 18, 2009 from 4:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. The

committee lined up *The Chicago Joe Jones Blues Band*, as well as setting up the grill. Grill items were charged at “swim team pricing.” The attendance price charged was \$6.00 per person, with a maximum of \$24.00 per family. It was well attended and everyone had great fellowship, children and adults.

The Kanuga parish weekend will be Mother’s Day weekend, May 8-10, 2009. Ms. Helen Ingebritson and Mrs. Lisa Smith are working on this event. The cost will be about \$171.00 for adults, \$70.00 for kids, with no big changes in prices. Kanuga needs confirmed numbers very soon.

F. Worship, Mr. Kelly, Chair. No report.

Strategic Planning Committee, Mr. Smith, Chair. They had a discussion of the service change schedule. It was decided the Vestry would host two (2) parish-wide open forums on Sunday, May 3, 2009; one at 9:30 a.m. and the other immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service. We will be there to listen to all parishioners and not be defensive; we will be open and have the information requested available. Mr. Kelly and Mr. Oakley will be the facilitators for these meetings. The Vestry will also provide the refreshments for both meetings.

Report of the Liaison from the School Board of Trustees, Mr. Fitzgerald. They had a good golf tournament. They have also had a great deal of success in placing students during the last phase of enrollment, including the 8th graders who need to be placed at other schools. The 8th grade numbers may be lower in 2009-2010.

Report of the Rector, Fr. McCard.

Pastoral Updates

Bonnie Skutch has been put on bed rest for the remainder of her pregnancy because the Doctors are concerned about the level of the amniotic fluid. She will remain in the hospital until the birth. Her due date is Mother’s Day weekend.

Maria Suthers broke her upper arm a couple of weeks ago, but didn’t need surgery.

Lisa McFarlin is recovering well following surgery for breast cancer.

Charles Fulghum had knee surgery a couple of weeks ago. He is currently at a rehabilitation center near Northside. He feels and looks quite well.

Delegates to the General Convention—The following will represent St. Martin’s at the general convention that will be held at the Cathedral on November 6-7, 2009: Mr. Allen Hamilton, Mrs. Susan Hamilton, Mr. Vince Vitti, Mr. Gene Smith and Mr. Tim Fitzgerald.

Report of the Clergy Staff:

- A. Associate Rector for Youth and Parish Life, Fr. Skutch. No report.

- B. Associate Rector for Pastoral Care, Programs and Adult Formation, Mtr. Erickson. No report.

- C. Rector or Associate Rector for Outreach Ministries, Fr. McCard or Fr. Suthers. No report.

Reports of the Wardens:

- A. Junior Warden, Mr. Hamilton. See attached report. Endowment Fund has agreed to look at the HVAC for the church facilities. The plans will be reviewed again and we will have the representatives from Linc update their proposal to see if we can move this forward.

The meeting of the Vestry was temporarily adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

The meeting of the Vestry was reconvened at 7:02 p.m.

Mr. Hamilton would like to head up a parish-wide work day some time in the next few weeks, which would include sprucing up the grounds and completing some touch-up paint within the church.

- B. Senior Warden, Mrs. Hamilton. No report.

Report of the Treasurer, Mr. Vitti—Attached are the Operating Budget, Pledge Report, and Restricted Account Report, as of April 17, 2009. Because Mr. Vitti was unable to attend this meeting, we will review these report at our next scheduled Vestry meeting.

Other Business:

A copy of the fully executed Zoning Conditions Agreement between the Oglethorpe Estates Neighborhood and the church and school is hereby attached for reference.

The Vestry tellers for May are Mrs. Becky Short and Mrs. Sid Oakley. The head tellers will be Mr. Steve Short, Ms. Beth Holland, Mrs. Susanne Snyder, Mr. Bill Bazzel and Mrs. Kathy Evenson. Reminders will be sent out each Wednesday.

“One Size Does Not Fit All”—A children and youth curriculum conference will be held on Saturday, May 2, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the Cathedral. The cost is \$10.00 and all Christian Education directors, teachers and committee members are encouraged to attend. Please contact Ms. Linda Scott at 404/601-5353 or lscott@episcopalatlanta.org for more information.

A Stewardship Workshop will be held on Saturday, May 16, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at the Cathedral in room 382. There is no charge and lunch will be included. Please register on line or call Mr. Roger Sherrard at 770/792-4498 or rwsherrard@bellsouth.net. Churches are encouraged to send teams to this workshop.

Next Meeting: The next regular Vestry meeting will be held on Monday, May 18, 2009, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Alumni Room of the school.

Closing Prayer: A motion was made to adjourn this meeting. The motion was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed. Following a closing prayer by Fr. McCard, this meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Holland
Clerk of the 2009 Vestry