**From:** Debra Spencer <cuardaigh55@gmail.com>
**Date:** July 21, 2022 at 3:47:26 PM PDT
**To:** Vestry <vestry@st-john-aptos.org>
**Subject:** **[Vestry] Minutes** 7.19.22 Vestry Meeting

Present: Win Fernald, Joanna Philllips, Antonette Wood, Alliee deArmond, Jon Showalter, Chris Rowen, Debra Spencer (notes), Nelson Crandall (treasurer)

Guest: Deacon Joan Anderson the meeting began at 6:36:

Antonette moved and Joanna seconded a motion to welcome the AFC people to stay at St. John’s throughout the month of October. Then Debra prayed and provided material for formation.

Treasurer’s Report:

* Tiana (the bookkeeper) does a quarterly reconciliation of brokerage accounts; Nelson noticed a current loss because of stock market volatility. When our finances are in Realm, those funds will be better reconciled.
* Nelson and Tiana will meet to go over the transfer of finances from QuickBooks to Realm. Pledge collection is strong; we’re in the black, cash-wise.
* Overbudget on computers because of the transition process.
* The Helpful Shop is significantly ahead of budget, with $30,000 for grants so far.
* Nelson believes that the problem of distinguishing between money spent from pledges and money spent from other sources in the budgeted and the actual will be easier to deal with after the transition. He can’t predict when the transition will be complete but agreed to ask Tiana when she thinks that will be.
* Alliee asked about the stock market decline of the Rebele endowment. Nelson said adjustment might come later, but right now cash is not an issue.

Finding the water leak:

* Leonard Foreman is working on this. He decided not to pay an outside company to fix it (too expensive).
* The leak is mitigated by turning off the landscaping water after watering the landscape. (Water to the church is a separate system and is not leaking.)
* Some plants are dying and will need to be replaced.

Rector Housing:

* This is an ongoing discussion. We are gathering data and ideas for a possible decision in the future.
* Nelson investigated equity-sharing pros and cons (see below). He has a spreadsheet, and results of some thought experiments, available on request.
* Chris Rowen, concerned that discussing rector housing may interfere with the discernment process (whether to launch a capital campaign to fund future church building), proposed that buying a rectory might be a good idea and proposed some different ways to do that, with pros and cons (see below).
* Jon volunteered to ask around the diocese and the diocesan office to see how other churches are dealing with this issue, which we assume affects all parishes in our high-priced housing diocese.
* Alliee asked if we should pay our rectors so much. Living here has many perks to offer prospective rectors. Maybe we should call a rector who already owns a house here.
* Chris asked how discussion of rector housing fits into the discernment process. Antonette addressed that later in the meeting.

Vestry Nominating Committee:

We decided to address this at the August meeting. The vestry chooses the members, and we still have enough time.

Discernment Steering Committee: Antonette reported that

* A survey will soon be mailed to 100 families in the parish--this week or next. Committee members will receive training on how to approach the survey, and the survey includes a question about rector housing.
* Conversations with individual parish members will begin August 1 and end September 12.
* Consultant Linda Buskirk will come here then to help plan the committee’s next steps.
* Chris said that money has already been allocated specifically for building and can be used for nothing else; what if people think that we can use that money for another purpose? Antonette reiterated that the committee is not talking about money.
* Jon said there are many things we need to talk about, but do people have enough information? Win said this isn’t the end of gathering people’s opinions. Jon said, So we trust in the Lord. Antonette said, People complete the survey, then someone will talk with them about it.

Ladder Safety Rules:

Win has put up these rules near the 8‘ ladder and asked people to read and follow them. Among other things, always have another person with you if you go up the ladder.

Win is sending out the list of dates needing counters and he asked everyone who hasn’t yet to sign up for a date.

Report Out to Parish:

* AFC participants staying at St. John’s all of October
* Opened discussion of rector housing
* Discernment survey to be mailed to 100 families; committee will talk to recipients
* Vestry nominating committee will be chosen next month

Ladder safety rules posted near 8’ ladder; please read and follow

* Work on irrigation system ongoing, so plants don’t die
* Cub Scouts to meet at St. John’s
* Al-Anon to meet at St. John’s

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Spencer

Converted to a WORD document by Win Fernald