

**St. John's Bishops Committee**  
**Minutes of Monday, March 21, 2016**

**Place:** St. John's, Clayton - Fireside Room

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Present:** John Ferrante, Paul Hershaw, Corky Francis, Helen Hilbourn, Sherrie Hidalgo, Wendy Brose, Barbara Fester, Cindy Molander, Laurel McDermott, Rev. Amanda May

**Absent:** Rev. Fran Gardner Smith

**Minutes** from the January meeting were approved

**Treasurer's Report:** Approved for audit.

**Co-Vicars' Report:**

**Rev. Amanda May:** Presented the draft budget for 2016 and indicated not all pledges are in. Our assessment amount rose from \$9,775 in 2015 to \$11,685 for 2016. Motion to accept the draft budget unanimously approved. Cindy suggested that Amanda train someone else to know how to use her system in the event she's out of town and we need to generate financial statements (Quick Books)

**Sr. Warden: (no report)**

**Jr. Warden:** This has been a busy 2 months.

**Actions to consider at BC Meeting:**

- 1) Additional plumbing expenses – long term maintenance
- 2) Beginning of gradual implementation of Grounds Improvement
- 3) Replanting of Garden Boxes for Spring 2016

**Key Items listed:**

- 1) Property Development – lower lot: moving forward after foot dragging and added complexity by City of Clayton. Contacted a City council member who queried Planning Department on delays and their added requirements – movement resulted. CEQA review contractor was selected and review started.
- 2) Neighbor has asked for access through our property to conduct backyard contract work. Access granted; work completed Friday, March 18
- 3) Sewer problems – resolved with new sewer line + cleanouts. Due diligence checked by Richard E. & me.....good work
- 4) Facilities usage coordination proceeded in fits and starts. Reminder that one of my new duties is to manage the official, web based Facilities Schedule for St Johns. Please make sure that I am informed of parish plans: Group name, dates/times/rooms, purpose of use, contact person – name, phone/email
- 5) Ron Pell and I laid out the "1. Edition" Meditation Meander Path, for use in Sacred Sites and Meditation events (one step before Curly-cue Thing).
- 6) The latest sign of an aging Church facility: water blow out in the kitchenette in the Church building. Plastic (!) hose broke at union to faucet connection. Repaired with new metal sleeved hose. Most water sopped up by Hershaw & Ferrante.....middle of the night – Lynn was an Angel: was at Church when blowout occurred and roused the troops. John F. & I observed, as we mopped-up water, that many water valves do not work well, and that there is little need for hot water in the kitchenette. I will pursue replacement of plumbing, including master water turn-off. Estimates to come.
- 7) Work Day Saturday, March 19, combined effort with Altar Guild. Reasonable turn out of 4 men & 3-4 women for clean-up of Sanctuary and grounds; great window washing and trim/sweep crews, plus John

on the super vac for dewatering carpet. Also hauled away carpet and decomposed tables from clean-ups of the last 2 years in Corky's truck to St Michael's dumpster. Prepared garden boxes for Spring planting.

**NEW BUSINESS** - (Amanda). Will be taking the summer off (3 months) for her sabbatical. The Diocese is trying to find someone to fill in at both churches. She is doing all the bulletins for the summer in advance of her absence. Motion was passed approving her sabbatical.

Meditation Path - From Easter to Pentecost, it would be nice to have readings at each point, printed on card stock and placed under plexiglass. This would make it easy to change the readings, according to the season. We could place benches around to sit and reflect. The Columbarium would be at the end of the path.

## **SWEEPS REPORTS**

**SERVICE (Cindy Molander):** On the evening of February 15th, St. John's joined Clayton Valley Presbyterian Church as co-sponsors of a *Love Your Muslim Neighbors* panel discussion and open forum hosted by St. Bonaventure's. The event drew 125 people from the three sponsoring congregations and from the larger community. This was one of many such panels organized by the Contra Costa Interfaith Council and held throughout the county.

On February 21st Rev. Amanda and I attended an information and training session held by leaders of the Multifaith Action Committee. Volunteers from several central county churches attended to learn how to gather signatures on petitions to raise the minimum wage in California to \$15 an hour by 2020. By the deadline of April 8th, petitions will have been circulated at all four Holy Spirit churches. As of this date, we have 54 signatures. More will be added at visits to St. Michael's and St. George's/St. Alban's.

Monument Crisis Center - It would be great if we had two or three volunteers to work with the Center to represent SJC as part of that interfaith community. Laurel mentioned that SJC does a lot of volunteer work for Meals on Wheels.

**WORSHIP (Barbara Fester ):** (See attached report)

**EDUCATION (Laurel McDermott & Corky Francis):** (The following is Corky's report)

**CHILDREN POPULATION:** Class size will remain the same as last year, 2-5 depending on the weekend activities. Sleepovers, Soccer, and other family member activities seem to be the priority. When we have class, it is a very positive experience for the children. We have geared our lessons to the church standard lectionary.

- EDUCATION PLAN:** The 2016 Education will continue with the interpretation of the weekly Episcopal Church Service. We will continue to have special activities on special holidays.
- OUTREACH:** Our Community Garden was moderately successful and we produced some cabbage for the Lenten Suppers. We have seed tomatoes and peppers in the works for the Spring planting season.
- NEW BCC MISSIONS:** I am pursuing a Consolidated Veterans Group consolidating all three churches.

**AGENDA ITEMS:** Procurement of Defibrillator for St Johns. Action - we need to look into liability, training, who would do it, etc. Maybe a survey of the congregation to see if anyone is interested in going through with the training.

## **EVANGELISM ( Barbara Fester ): Hospitality & Fellowship**

### **Events:**

- . Maundy Thursday, St. John's & St. Michael's - 3/24/16 - special thank you to Rosemary Francis for taking care of supper and Ann Ferrante for flowers
- . Easter Bake Sale - 3/27 - Rosemary Francis
- . Easter Egg Hunt & Bunny - 3/27 - Sherrie Hidalgo & Kathy Rosen

- . Easter Sunday Coffee Hour - 3/27 - Touhey & Fester
- . LEM & LEV trainings - 3/9, 16, 30 - thank you to everyone who helped and provided treats
- . Reception for Artist and Spiritual Leader Nita Ng - 4/11
- . Mother's Day & Baptism - 5/8 - Thank you to Howards and Henshaws
- . Reception for John Capraro's Celebration of Life - 5/14
- . Vigil of Pentecost Reception at St. Michael's - 5/14
- . Tapestry Reception - 5/15
- . Hospitality for Meeting with Diocese & Holy Spirit Representatives regarding transition upon departure of Reverend Fran

**Upcoming:**

- . Reception for Grant Street Players, Senior Projects St. Michael's - 5/29

**Purchases:**

- . coffee hour supplies, flowers, candles, will need new urn for water

**PASTORAL CARE ( Sherrie Hidalgo):** Sherrie called sixteen people who used to come to St. John's, to tell them they were missed and to tell them about all the Easter services.

**STEWARDSHIP ( Jim McDougald-ex officio): (no report)**

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm

Respectfully submitted by Wendy Brose