Minutes of the October 28, 2010 Vestry Meeting
Of St. Mary and St. Jude

Present: The Rev. Patricia Robertson, Carroll Fernald, Dorothy Clunan, Alan Gregory (for Treasurer's report)
By Phone: Axie Diana, Arthur Keller, Anne Ogilby, Robin Graves, Absent: Moorhead Kennedy, Maude March, Janet Stratton
The meeting was called to order at 4 p.m. After a moment of silence Patricia said a prayer. Then the group rated our parish based on the survey at the end of "Five Keys for Church Leaders". Each person was asked to prepare ideas to aid in the vestry's work in areas that need improvement for the next meeting. Patricia will send the summary of our ratings to aid in our reflections.

A motion was made by Dorothy, seconded by Anne, and passed unanimously that minutes of the September 30 meeting be approved.

Alan Gregory reviewed the financial monthly Balance Sheet, the Revenue & Expenses Budget Performance Accrual Basis from Jan. to September, 2010. There has been an upswing in revenue, which, if it continues, may reduce the operating deficit so that possibly fewer funds need be taken out of the Leadership Fund, but we should be able to meet our budget. Alan then reviewed the draft, proposed Budget for 2011. He stressed that money should be raised on two fronts to avoid the necessity to use the Leadership Fund: – Planned Giving and an increase in pledges due to an influx of new members.

After Alan departed Patricia informed the Vestry that the monthly Harbor Chart will be made available on line to parishioners in hopes that some will choose email over snail mail. It is hoped this will reduce the costs of printing the HC, in addition to having two issues cover two months, bearing in mind that older people may prefer to receive printed copies as well as those who live away for part of the year.

The Nominating Committee, headed by the Senior Warden, consists of the Rector, the Junior Warden and one other member, for this year Robin Graves. The committee must find volunteers to serve as delegates and alternates to the 2011 convention, and volunteers to serve on the Stroud Committee, whose chair, Beth Renault, finishes her term of office in January, 2011. The slates for these nominees will be voted on at the first half of the Annual Meeting to be held on January 23, 2011.
The slate of nominees to replace Vestry members whose terms of office end in 2011 will be voted on at the second half of the Annual Meeting to be held on May 29.

Patricia, Junior Warden Janet Stratton, and Treasurer Alan Gregory met with Terrance Reimer, Canon for Finance and Stewardship. Diocese of Maine, on October 5, 2010. The outcome included the fact that the vestry should be more involved in the process of appointing Finance Committee members. Patricia asked the vestry if Laurie Fernald could be appointed to the Finance Committee in January. The vestry agreed to Lauri being appointed in January. Terry said it is rare that a treasurer remain in office for as much as nine years, and recommended that we transition to a new treasurer.
The Treasurer is elected by the Vestry and should preferably be a year round member of the congregation able to supervise the bookkeeper and be available to sign checks.

The Stroud committee met on October 7, 2010 and its recommendations for distribution of $5500.00 for outreach were inadvertently left off of the agenda. They were tentatively approved by the vestry after this meeting through email. These will be ratified and included in the next meeting.

Kitchen discussion: before progress can be made there has to be a more modest proposal from the Buildings and Grounds Committee and the Kitchen subcommittee for the remodeling of the current kitchen and refurbishment of the Parish center to the Vestry. A revised drawing/ sketch with cost estimates are the first step. Sidney Graves is not available for the time being to do a revised drawing, but it is hoped that a rough cost estimate for the suggestions made at the meeting of vestry and the "Corps de Cuisine" members could be put together by B&G…

Patricia is working on a revised Mission statement that will be shorter but reflects the spirit of our current statement.

The next meeting of the Vestry will be on November 18, 2011. The January meeting will take place on January 13. and the first half of the Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, January 23, following a single service at 9:30 am.

Given the geographic expanse of the Parish of St. Mary and St. Jude, Patricia is looking to move the Wednesday evening Contemplative Prayer meeting (5:30 – 6:00 pm) to Somesville, possibly to the Somesville Library. Also, she plans to expand the time to include a discussion of a relevant book, and begin meetings at 5 pm, concluding by 6:15 pm. This would possibly attract more members and public to attend.

Patricia will be out of town November 1 – 10, partially on vacation, plus a social event with members of the SSMJ seasonal congregation at the home of Morris and Ann Kellett in Philadelphia.

Respectfully submitted by

Dorothy Clunan, Senior Warden