

Approved Minutes
St. Andrew's Vestry Meeting
May 16, 2023

Rector, Wardens and Vestry present: Marilyn Cheney, Martha Elliott, Kirk Holbrook, Kelley Kash, Ruth Piper, Terry Marsh, Suzannah Rohman, Lili Pugh, Sara Sandberg, Jim Swan, John Ward

Excused: Laurie Gray

Treasurer present: Mark Freese

Visitor present: Bill Judd

Suzannah opened the meeting at 4:31

Opening Prayer/Reflection- Jim Swan shared two readings from the book *Positive Intelligence* by Shirzad Chamine; a poem and 'The Stallion Story' a Buddhist tale. Ruth Piper will give the opening prayer/reflection at our next meeting.

We moved, seconded and voted to approve the April 18, 2023 minutes. The motion was passed by all.

Property Committee – Jim Swan had emailed the Property Committee Agenda Notes. He asked Bill Judd to explain more about the heat pump project. The quote/contract of \$34,000 from Mid-coast Energy would need to be signed before July 1st and the work would be scheduled for the fall. Daves Appliances in Winthrop will also come on Monday to give a quote. Efficiency Maine has rebates \$800.00 for the first unit and \$400 for the second unit. We talked about the locations of the units. One in the library, one each in the two offices and two in the Undercroft. We moved, seconded and voted to approve the following: St Andrew's will go ahead with the heat pump installation project at a estimated cost of \$34,000. The motion was passed by all. We thanked Bill Judd for all his work.

Jim met with the architect Tor Glendinning and said that Tor is amenable and sensitive to any parameters (scope of work). Jim suggested that the Vestry and the Property Committee work together to create a list of more critical, and 'less critical or wish list' upgrades to the new building. Then we would work with Tor to craft a plan. At the upcoming Vestry retreat will share our perspectives and ideas about the work. Jim suggested that we engage Tor beginning in the last quarter of this year.

We talked about the exterior lighting. The Property Committee is adjusting the brightness level by swapping out bulbs, as there was one complaint. The church insurance company may have guidelines. It is important that the lighting be correct. The lighting will turn off at 9:30 PM. Thank you, Jim. The Property Committee is doing a lot of good work.

Treasurer's Report- Mark Freese

Mark had emailed the financial statement. The checking account at the Ist for the Haiti Fund will be closed and the money will be placed into the #1000 account, which is our regular account at the Ist. We paid \$18,000 to bring us up to date with the Diocesan assessment. We pay approximately \$4,300 per month for the Diocesan assessment. A question was asked about our investments, which must be invested through the diocese. Mark explained that on the Diocesan website we can see where the funds are invested. Thank you Mark, the explanations were very helpful.

Climate Justice Council - Lili reported that the The Earthkeepers had a good first meeting, and they plan to meet on a monthly basis. Veggies to Table will schedule a work day for St Andrew's parishioners in June.

Safe Church Training- Suzannah reminded us to compete it. We asked what is the rule for reporting suspected abuse to a child or elderly person? The mandated reporting guideline is immediate reporting, followed by a written document. Suzannah explained that the first step is to report to her. You can report to the police also. The goal is for the appropriate route to be taken and that everyone be working together to keep someone safe.

Vestry Retreat- The retreat will be on June 17th, 10:00 until 2:00 at Lili's family house in Friendship. One activity will be to talk about who we are, and reflect on what the needs of the church will be over the next 25 years.

Assistant Treasurer position - Kelley and Mark will write a job description to be posted. The hope is that the position will be filled by someone who is in training to become the treasurer in a few years.

Memorial Garden - John and Seth Stewart will send a letter when people who may donate can see progress in the restoration work, later this spring.

Employment Agreements - Suzannah and John will send a letter to the parish community. June 13th will be the last choir day. The 8:00 service will have organ music one Sunday each month. Next week after the services will be a time to ask questions about the changes.

Foyer Dinners- Many people have signed up. Laurie Grey and Martha Elliot are organizing the foyer groups.

The Bishop's visit - Bishop Brown will come to our June 20 Vestry meeting. It is an opportunity for him to observe a Vestry meeting, and for us to ask questions.

The Zoorob's visit on June 4 - Rev Zoorob will give the sermon at the 10:00 Service. We will have a festive coffee hour. We were updated on Ralph and Marc's education journeys: Ralph will attend Sewanee, the University of the South. Marc is majoring in medical engineering at the university of Maine.

Other business- A suggestion was made that there be a stand for the cross used in processions placed at the back of the church.

Expressions of Gratitude- In Gratitude for the life of Bob Gorrill.

Further expressions of gratitude to Ann Kash, and to Tony Castro for the restoration of painted surfaces and plasterwork below the East window in the sanctuary.

Adjournment- 6:21 PM

Respectfully submitted, Terry Marsh