

Approved Minutes
St. Andrew's Vestry Meeting
October 17, 2023

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

Treasurer present: Mark Freese

Suzannah opened the meeting at 4:30

Opening Prayer/Reflection- Kirk Holbrook read the October 13th statement by the Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby about prayers for the people of the Holy Land. Laurie Grey will give the opening prayer/reflection at our next meeting.

We moved, seconded and voted to approve the September 19, 2023 minutes. The motion was passed by all.

Property Committee – Jim Swan said The heat pumps are being installad. The Memorial Garden committee will meet with two landscape architects to decide who to work with on the planting phase of the renovation. Sally Pearce's crew will assist, but the installation will be done professionally. The handrails will be installed in the spring. Coastal Rivers Conservation Trust will release beetles for the mitigation of wooly alegid in the hemlock trees in March. The new carpet choice for the upstairs hallway and offices is in process. Thank you Jim, and thanks to all members of the Property Committee.

Treasurer's Report- Mark Freese reported that currently our budget is \$9,000 over expenditures. A donation of \$5,500 was received for the Memorial Garden Fund. Mark said to give him information for the planning of next years budget now. We moved, seconded and voted to approve the treasurer's report. The motion was passed by all. Thank you, Mark.

Parish Needs Discernment Committee - Kelley reported that the committee met on October 4th. The next meeting will be on November 9th, at which they will plan a timeline. The committee plans to share with and get feedback from the parish about setting priorities. Margaret Coit will be asked to join this committee. Thank you, Kelley.

Newcomers - Ann will have the completed welcome and information request cards. Jim and Sara will write notes and get in touch.

Foyer Dinners- Next year, the email addresses that the church records will be used.

Outreach Committee - We moved, seconded and voted the following statement: We formalize a covenant agreement with Habitat for Humanity for 2023-2024. The motion was passed by all. Steve Ward will be the representative and go to the breakfast on October 24th. We next talked

about a request from Tedford Housing. John will write to the director. We moved, seconded and voted the following statement: The Vestry decided respectfully to forgo this opportunity to commit to a relationship with Tedford given St. Andrew's Church's ongoing relationship with local agencies. The motion was passed by all.

We moved, seconded and voted to give discretion for the Rector to distribute \$13,000 from the Outreach Endowment Fund to the following four agencies: The Ecumenical Committee for Homeless Prevention, Chip, the Jubilee Center, and Out Maine. The motion was passed by all.

Stewardship - John noted that we should be sure to have up to date email addresses. We moved, seconded and vote to authorize the amended Vestry letter regarding finances to be sent to the parish. The motion was passed by all.

Vestry Announcements - Kelley will share his template, so there will be some uniformity.

L.G.T.B.T.Q + meet up - Jim reported that there were 12 students at the Friday September 29 meet up in the undercroft. Some of the participants come from food insecure homes. Going forward there will be a rotating schedule of locations, the next meeting will be at Lincoln Academy. Thank you, Jim.

The 2022 Audit- John explained that the project of making an inventory of items will be postponed for now. Jim will ask Jack Dexter and Ed Ross about insurance coverage, and if we should have a list of items.

Earthkeepers -The group is working on a land acknowledgment. Ann Creamer suggested the church set up an account with the recycle deposit organization "Clink". The money from people depositing their recycled bottles would go to St. Andrew's. We agreed that these funds can be earmarked for the Earthkeepers work.

Other - Ben Cooke has been approved by the standing committee. The date for his ordination to become a transitional deacon is tentatively set for November 11, 2023 at 4:00.

The Episcopal Church Pension Fund has awarded funds for Suzannah to attend the Credo Conference in California. She will go on October 31, and return on November 8. Lisa Fry will be the supply clergy.

Expressions of Gratitude - To Jim for bringing Out Maine into the St. Andrew's community. To Ann Kash for her work in making Hester Stuhlman's service so memorable and beautiful.

Adjournment- 6:03 PM

Respectfully submitted, Terry Marsh