Approved Minutes

St. Andrew’s Vestry Meeting

February 27, 2024

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

Rector excused: Suzannah Rohman

Vestry member excused: Kirk Holbrook

Treasurer present: Mark Freese

John Ward opened the meeting at 4:34

Opening Prayer/Reflection- John Ward reflected on different versions of prayers in editions of the Book of Common Prayer. Terry will give the opening prayer/reflection at our next meeting.

We moved, seconded and voted to approve the December 19, 2023 minutes. The motion was passed by all. We moved, seconded and voted to approve the January 15, 2024 minutes. Noting the removal of the approval of minutes in the December meeting minutes, the motion was passed by all.

Property Committee – Jim presented two projects for our approval. Sophia Doe of Perception Greenspace Design, who was suggested by Ed Ross, has prepared a proposal for the design, list of plants, installation strategy, and estimate of material costs for the grounds and memorial garden of $1,900. We moved, seconded and voted to approve the contract with Sophia Doe. The hardwood floor in the sanctuary should be refinished before the new carpeting is installed. Rein Green Painting LLC submitted a proposal to refinish the floor in the sanctuary area, including materials for $3,700. The work would be done before Easter. After a discussion about the preference for receiving second quote and a plan to have a standard policy we decided that because Rein Greene has done excellent work in the past we should proceed to a vote. We moved, seconded and voted to approve the proposal by Rein Greene for floor refinishing at the cost of $3,700. The motion was passed, with one abstention.The Property Committee proposed a plan to hire two professional gardeners to work once a month with Sally Pearce and her group of volunteers to care for the grounds. We moved, seconded and voted to approve hiring the gardeners for 2024. We thanked Jim and all the committee for the amazing work.

Earthkeepers - Lili said the group is planning for a garden clean-up event on April 21 to celebrate Earth Day. Banners for Earth Day will be a project at the next intergenerational gathering. The Clynk bags are a success, many parishioners have picked up bags to use. Thanks to Ann, Sara and the knitting group for setting up the Clynk how-to table display with the bags. The Earthkeepers and the garden group will coordinate. The Earthkeepers are beginning to prepare for next year's season of creation in September.

Treasurer’s Report- Mark Freese said that pledges are coming in well, and our equity is up. Mark announced that Lili Pugh has stepped up to be the assistant treasurer. As this is his final year as treasurer it is important to have an assistant to observe and go through a cycle. A huge thank you to Lili! We moved, seconded and voted to approve Lili Pugh to be the assistant treasurer. The motion was enthusiastically passed by all. We moved, seconded and voted to approve the treasurer’s report. The motion was passed by all.

Finance Committee request. Mark and John shared this statement:

 “Following the recommendations of the Audit Committee, the Finance Committee requests that the vestry formally establish investment objectives for the church’s portfolio and that it name the Finance Committee as the Investment Committee of the parish and that as such will annually review investment performance as measured against the vestry’s stated objectives.”

We will discuss this initiative at our vestry meeting next month.

Parish Needs Discernment Committee - Kelley said the committee is planning meetings with a dozen groups to talk about their thoughts about setting a vision for the church. John noted that we want to plan for the church in the long term ambitiously and not fearfully and in reaction. Thank you, Kelley.

Nominating Committee - Tanya Albert, Laurie Gray, Alex Pugh (vestry nominees for 3-year terms), Laura Blanchard (vestry nominee for a 1-year term), Kelley Kash (Junior Warden nominee for a 1-year term), Sara Sandberg (Senior Warden nominee for a 2-year term). Many thanks to the nominating committee: John Ward, Lili Pugh, Laurie Gray and Marilyn Cheney.

The Annual Meeting will be on March 3rd, 2024 following a single service at 9:00. John Ward will preside. Rev. Lisa Fry will attend in Suzannah’s absence.

Reflections on the Advent and Christmas seasons. Ben noted that the best time to plan is six to nine months ahead. We will review at our next meeting when Suzannah is back..

Parochial Report - We moved, seconded and voted to approve the 2023 Parochial Report. The motion was passed by all with thanks to Ann Kash and John Ward.

Suzannah’s proposal for our thoughts about her proposal for the Lily Foundation Grant and “Wider and Deeper” ways to spiritually deepen. John asked us to think about ideas to bring to the next vestry meeting.

Expressions of Gratitude - To Lili for becoming assistant treasurer, to Ann Kash for the preparations for the annual meeting (amazing job, online and in print) and to Rev. Lisa Fry for her service as our interim minister. Grateful thanks!

Adjournment- 6:06 PM Respectfully submitted, Terry Marsh