Approved Minutes

St. Andrew’s Vestry Meeting

March 26, 2024

Rector and Vestry present: Tanya Albert, Laura Blanchard, Martha Elliott. Kirk Holbrook, Kelley Kash, Terry Marsh, Ruth Piper, Alex Pugh, Suzannah Rohman, Sara Sandberg, Jim Swan.

Vestry member excused: Laurie Grey

Treasurer present: Mark Freese

Warden in training present: Ben Cooke

Visitor present: Bill Judd

Suzannah opened the meeting at 4:30.

Opening Prayer/Reflection- Terry read the introductory statement from the service leaflet of the 21 January, 2024 service at St Columba’s by the Chapel, a Scottish Episcopal Church in Edinburgh, Scotland. We then read in unison the Affirmation of Faith (after the Iona Community) from their service leaflet Kelley will give the opening prayer/reflection at our next meeting.

We moved, seconded and voted to approve the February 27, 2024 minutes. The motion was passed by all.

Mark Freese, our treasurer suggested that we establish time limits for the office of the Treasurer; one year appointments for a maximum of five years. An amendment in the By-Laws would be the next step. We will explore this suggestion. Thank you Mark, great suggestion.

Suzannah explained that Lili Pugh, because of her upcoming chairmanship of the Finance Committee, will not become the Assistant Treasurer. Mark accepted Suzannah’s request to continue to serve for one additional year, as we look for someone to fill the Assistant Treasurer position. We moved, seconded and voted to appoint Lili Pugh as Chair of the Finance Committee. The motion was passed by all.

Property Committee – Jim said that the two large trees at the river have been cut down. The floor refinishing work is completed. There followed a conversation about the title ‘Buildings and Grounds”, as this was the title before “Property Committee”. Jim will review with the committee to decide about the best title.

Bill Judd spoke about the concrete ramp and the complex choices about the need to renovate at the back of the church, because of long term problems relating to moisture and damage to the sill. Bill and Jim both said that the ramp needs to be removed to assess the level of renovation required. We agreed that the next step is to interview architecture firms. Brett Donham can help with choosing possible architects. A subcommittee of Vestry and members of the parish will be set up. We moved, seconded and voted to form a subcommittee of the Vestry to take the initial step of recruiting architects to work on the ramp project. The motion was passed by all. Jim will reach out to Brett Donham and Bob Lundeen to ask them to join this committee made up of Jim, Kelley, Suzannah and Bill Judd.

We will explore instituting a policy about hiring parishioners.

Earthkeepers - Sara explained that the possible ways the proposed land acknowledgement statement will be used is still to be determined. Ideas shared were to include it on our webpage. We will explore further at our next meeting.

We moved, seconded and voted to approve the reinstitution of intinction. The motion was passed by all.

We moved, seconded and voted to approve recommending Ben Cooke for the priesthood. The motion was passed by all.

We moved, seconded and voted to approve the purchase of a new computer for Ann Kash. The motion was passed by all.

We talked about the Advent and Christmas season services. We hope to advertise better in the community about the service of Lessons and Carols. We will reflect on the Easter services at the next vestry meeting. The Easter Vigil could be a joint service with other area churches.

We talked about how to improve communications to people serving at a service in the case of a weather closure. Sometimes the decision to cancel is done at the last minute. It is important to contact everyone serving.

We will review the suggestion to revisit the budget at our April meeting. This is in connection with the suggestion to reintroduce music for the 8:00 service.

Suzannah thanked everyone who helped during her time away.

Adjournment- 6:45 PM Respectfully submitted, Terry Marsh