Approved Minutes

St. Andrew’s Vestry Meeting

November 26 , 2024

Vestry present: Tanya Albert, Laura Blanchard, Martha Elliott, Laurie Gray, Kirk Holbrook, Kelley Kash, Terry Marsh, Ruth Piper, Alex Pugh, Jim Swan.

Vestry member excused: Sara Sandberg

Treasurer present: Mark Freese

Visitor present: Bill Judd

Suzannah opened the meeting at 5:00.

Opening Prayer/Reflection - Terry read a medieval prayer. Laurie will give the opening prayer/reflection at our next meeting.

We moved, seconded and voted to approve the October 22, 2024 minutes. The motion was passed by all.

Treasurer’s Report - Mark Freese reviewed the financial statements and said the yearly budget was ‘flowing’ as expected. We moved, seconded and voted to approve the Treasurer’s report. The motion was passed by all. Thank you, Mark.

Property Committee – Jim reported that the carpet project is complete. We thank Bob Lundeen, Martha Dodge and Margaret Coit for the stellar job. We especially note Bob’s day to day management! Thanks to all the property committee. Jim said the gas stove has been disconnected because of safety issues. The committee is looking into options for a replacement, which will be an electric stove. Mark noted that this will be considered a capital expenditure.

Vestry Discernment - Kelley led the conversation after Laurie and Ruth , our fellowship committee shared their proposals. They plan one event/activity for each season. A Christmas gathering is planned in the atrium between the two Christmas Eve services. A Christmas tree will be set up, and mulled cider and snacks served. At the upcoming annual meeting the Fellowship Committee will invite people to join.

Kelley talked about brainstorming for guiding principles to help us decide about our future priorities. We need to be future focused. Our human resources are more and more constrained. We need to be creative. One possibility is to bring in professional help for our website and reaching out, our public face in the community. Suzannah noted that the hope is to be thriving in the future, planning and talking with the parish as decisions are made. We hope to use guiding principles to be consistent with our mission.

Stewardship - Jim reviewed the number of pledges. The committee will send a letter to the few who have not responded so far. The stewardship has been great . We thanked the Stewardship group! Just wonderful!

Finance - Suzannah reported for Sara. The audit review guidelines are being updated by the Diocese. We moved, seconded and voted to wait for more guidance from the Diocese before conducting our next audit and review. The motion was passed by all.

The Memorial Garden has a designated fund. The Property Committee has taken on oversight of the Memorial Garden areas. We moved, seconded and voted on the following motion: Additional funds beyond those in the Memorial Garden fund may be allocated at the discretion of the Vestry. We formally designate the Property Committee with oversight of the Memorial Garden. The motion was passed by all. Thank you to the Property Committee.

Haiti Fund - Kelley reported that Frazier Meade has been contact with our partner parish in Figaro. Because of civil unrest we had not been able to help. Frazier has requested that the balance of the account be disbursed. We moved, seconded and voted on the following motion: The Vestry approves distribution of the balance of the Haiti Fund to support our partner parish in Figaro. The motion was passed by all. The Haiti Fund will continue to be one of our Sunday plate offering outreach recipients. Thank you, Kelley.

Outreach - Currently there is no outreach Committee. The outreach fund stands at $2,300.00. We moved, seconded and voted the following motion: The Vestry resolved to distribute equally between Out Maine, The Jubilee Center and C.H.I.P. the current outreach funds. The Vestry resolved to distribute equally throughout the year the outreach funds to our seven partner organizations. The motion was passed by all.

Christmas Services - There will be a 4:00 service with a pageant and a 6:00 Service with a musical prelude.

Expressions of Gratitude - To the Stewardship Committee for their leadership and wonderful short homilies. To Nora and Bob Lundeen for cleaning and caring for all the associated aspects of the carpet installation. To Suzannah for her sermons; so meaningful and amazingly on point.

Upcoming Meeting - Tuesday December 17, 2024 at 5:00 PM

Adjournment- 6:43 PM Respectfully Submitted by Terry