

Draft Minutes
St. Andrew's Vestry Meeting
February 15, 2022

Wardens and Vestry present: John Ward, Christine Benken, Mark Freese, Priscilla Glendinning, Terry Marsh, Sally Pearce, Lili Pugh, Sara Sandberg, Seth Stewart, Jim Swan, Edie Vaughan , Rachel Zoller

Rector: Suzannah Rohman

Suzannah opened the meeting at 3:00. She shared the sad news that Sally Johns died early this morning. Suzannah welcomed the new members of the vestry. She noted that a resolution is passed by a motion, a second and then a vote to make the resolution official. We all go out united with the decision. Edie asked about having a vestry retreat. Lili suggested Camp Bishopswood. In the spring when we can be outside we will plan to have a retreat. Seth and Lili will work on a packet of information for new vestry members.

1. Reports and Actions Items

- a. Election of Clerk: It was moved, second and voted to approve Terry Marsh.
- b. Election of Treasurer- It was moved, seconded and voted to approve Mark Freese.
- c. Minutes from January 18, 2022 – approved
- d. Property Committee – Christine Benken
 - i. Interior painting- Christine met with David Seabold, who has submitted a \$9,500 bid but has not provided a written scope of the proposed work. Christine noted that because it is interior work the vestry will vote, but she is not asking for approval yet. The walls in the nave may be worked on in sections for less disruption.
 - ii. Stained Glass
 1. Twin Elms Stained Glass will begin the restoration of the 2 altar windows in May. The cost will be \$22,000.
 2. Christine will write about the stained glass windows repair in an upcoming newsletter.
 - iii. Candelabra- Jim will contact Jim Van Dyke who is repairing the candelabra.
 - iv. Jim and Christine will co-lead the Property Committee this year, and Jim will lead the following year.

- e. Treasurer's Report. Mark noted that Ed will give him the documents. The two-month report will be presented next month.

2. New Business

- a. Through an anonymous donor The Maine Community Foundation has awarded us a \$3,000 grant to purchase an 'Owl', which is a device in which a camera connected to a computer simultaneously shows remote participants and participants in a Zoom meeting on everyone's screen. The grant is also for the cost of a software program similar to Zoom. We do not want to purchase the software program.
Bill Judd purchased and set up the device. There is a 30-day return. Lili proposed and Rachel seconded the following motion: John Ward will write a letter to the Maine Community Foundation accepting \$1000.00 to purchase the 'Owl' camera device. The letter will ask the foundation to ask the donor if we can use the balance of the \$3,000 for technology needs including the possible purchase of a second 'Owl' device. The motion was passed by all.
- b. Christian Formation – Sherrie Holbrook, the Children and Youth Ministries Coordinator, is planning an intergenerational gathering on Sunday afternoon March 6th. They will read a book about love. She will involve teens helping the younger children in making cards to send to shut-ins. The group will then go up to the church for worship. Future plans include a pot-luck meal at the Sunday afternoon gatherings.
- c. Reopening – Suzannah asked us about staying the course with our current covid protocols. We agreed. We then talked about singing with masks. Mark noted that the choir has gathered and recorded music with masks on. Because we do not ask if someone is vaccinated and because of the variety of ways of wearing a mask we think that it is too soon to have singing but that singing with masks might be the next step as the pandemic eventually recedes.
- d. Safe Church training - The Diocese has updated the requirement to include eucharistic ministers. Suzannah will do the training first. A system will be set up to record and remind the vestry and eucharistic ministers as some training will need to happen every year. Priscilla noted that it is worthwhile. Suzannah said we all want a safe church, and we encounter stuff where people need help.
- e. Time of vestry meetings. It was moved, seconded and voted to move to 4:30 for the March 15 meeting.
- f. The Mutual Ministry Review - Suzannah led a conversation about what we learned in the review process. At our vestry meetings: what's working, what's not? Our responses included the following: We need to have a sense of where the parish is going, what they are worried about or happy about. John noted that at some meetings we can move through briskly and have time to consider bigger issues. Rachel said we need to know who might be needing care. Suzannah said that we should evaluate and reinvigorate the pastoral care committee. We want

to encourage parish involvement and to learn what people are worried about, happy about or hoping for. Suzannah and the wardens will send out a question in the newsletter. At the vestry retreat we will explore other topics shared at the mutual ministry review. Seth noted that the vestry meeting should be effective, efficient and focus on business. Suzannah said spiritual development is also needed. She noted that we are a pastoral sized church not a program church. We need to be a more fluid church. She asked how should we start a meeting? One idea: a different person offering something each month. We will have one person share a personal insight at the start of the meeting. Priscilla will go first on March 15th.

- g. Parochial Report- John thanked Seth for his due diligence in working on the report. We reviewed the report. In the section on Outreach Ministries and Volunteer Activity of this Congregation #14. *Overseas sponsorships, micro loans, Heifer Project, Haiti relief*, the estimate of the number of people served should be 206. This change then includes the support for the two students coming from Beirut. We moved, seconded and voted to approve the Parochial Report as amended. The vote was unanimous.
- h. The Calling Tree- Edie, Priscilla, Seth and Rachel will begin calling again.

3. Expressions of Gratitude-

- a. To Bill Judd for his technology help. He is our hero. Seth will send a note.
- b. To Pam Mott for leading the Mutual Ministry Review. John will send a note from the vestry.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Marsh