

The Episcopal Church of St Andrew – New London
Vestry Meeting Minutes
March 15, 2016

Attending: Bruce Avery, Martha Barron, Harvey Best, Marni Eaton, Richard Haines, Mark Kellett, Lisa Kelly, Jay MacLeod, Nancy Rollins, Peter Ruth, Becky Rylander, Kelly Sundberg Seaman, Judy Wallace, Ellen Yenawine.

Absent: no one

Jay opened the meeting with a prayer at 5pm.

The **February minutes** were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Jay reviewed the plans for the **Vestry retreat** on April 20, 2016. We will depart at 9:30am from St. Andrew's parking lot and follow the schedule at the end of the minutes. We have a room in Lowell House for our meetings and Bishop Rob will join us for our second session.

Treasurer's Report: Peter presented the ledger to budget report January-February 2016. The income and expenses are right where they should be. The motion to accept the report was made, seconded and approved unanimously. Peter was thanked for spelling out the Outreach donations.

The Parochial Report, which is sent to the diocese (and some of it goes on to the national church office), was passed around so all could look at it. Peter and Bruce are working on a chart that will compare current information to years past. They hope to have it ready for the April Vestry meeting.

Resident Clergy gifts: Our clergy are not paid unless Jay is away and they are covering for him. The motion to give them each a \$100 gift certificate for the New London Restaurants was made, seconded and passed unanimously. Becky will get the gifts for Jim, Kathleen, Pat, and Charlie.

Mission Statement: Kelly brought everyone up to date on the work that has been done and presented the following:

**With St. Andrew, and all our forebears in faith,
we are learning to follow Jesus in the way of love.**

This will be presented to the congregation and it will go on our website. Thank you Kelly and the committee for your work on this project.

Buildings and Grounds: Harvey reported that the new vacuum is on its way.

Bruce Avery is going to make another National Episcopal Church sign, following the guidelines of the town, to be placed on the fence that is hiding the garbage.

The part to repair the church bell costs \$700. Since it is beyond 30 feet in the air, we need a hydraulic lift to get someone up there. Harvey will get an estimate for the lift.

Ceiling fans: It was a consensus to pursue the cost for fans in the parish hall as well as the church.

There are also interior and exterior painting projects that need to be done.

Becky reported that there is a mouse in the choir room and a trap has been set.

She and Richard thanked Harvey for the new lights over the choir area.

Harvey also reported that reviewing the lights in the building should be part of next year's budget process.

Epiphany, Newport: Kelly preached there last Sunday. She prepared communion for 17 people. On May 15, Alice will start a 3-month sabbatical. It is important to keep services going there. The vestry is comfortable doing Morning Prayer if no clergy is available. Common church usually has 8-12 people. They read a psalm and the gospel with a strong 12- step program woven in. We can expect that both Jay and Kelly will oversee some services there during the summer.

Lay Leadership: Information has been circulated for the conference on May 7th. Lisa, Richard, Martha, Bruce, and Mark are planning on attending. Kelly will invite others in the congregation who are potential vestry members to attend.

Taize: Jay reported that 5 young people and 3 adults have signed up for the trip. There is still a need to fund raise. It is hoped that we could have a sock-hop on a Friday in April or May. Whipple Hall has been suggested as a possible venue. The band (NOB) has been contacted but we need someone to work with Emily Major and Austin Brown to help coordinate the event.

Other business: Richard will pursue the use of social media to advertise our happenings. Jay reported that "Upbeat" is going very well.

We discussed when to open OSA and the consensus was to open it on Father's Day and go to Labor Day.

It was suggested that Harvey check the front steps at OSA to make sure they are not crumbling.

Jay reported that Kate MacLeod has completed an SASS interview with Barbara Hinman and that it is on the website (St. Andrew's Story Seekers). An interview with the Libermans is in production.

Nancy Rollins reported that there are ever increasing needs for the wheel chair bound members of our community. COA and KREM have started the conversation about what may need to happen in order to help and to transport these people. Habitat constantly gets requests to build ramps.

Mark announced that his new granddaughter, Anne Narcissa Kellett was born yesterday.

There being no other business, Kelly closed our meeting with the prayer for the parish, page 817 in the Book of Common Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Marni Eaton, Clerk

Vestry Retreat Schedule – Wednesday, 20 April

9:30	Depart St. Andrew's
11:30	Lunch in Harvard Square
12:30	Eucharist at Monastery of Society of St. John the Evangelist
1:30	Bible study and reflection at Lowell House
3:00	Free time for walking, shopping, sightseeing

3:30	Discerning the way forward for St. Andrew's – Bishop Rob
5:00	Quick supper in Harvard Square
6:00	Evening Prayer at the Monastery
6:45	Depart for New Hampshire