

The Episcopal Church of St. Andrew – New London
Vestry Meeting Minutes
May 17, 2016

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

Absent: Peter Ruth

Kelly opened the meeting with a prayer at 5pm.

A motion was made by Mark and seconded by Judy to accept the **April minutes** as a true and accurate record of the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

Building and Grounds: Harvey reported that the granite curbing is in place. The repair of the bell is in the works. The next project is new toilet seats in the downstairs bathrooms. Becky will contact her lighting person about the ceiling fans.

Worship: Jay reminded us that there is an assumption among the congregation that if something happens, he knows about it. This is not always true. He does feel that there needs to be a balance of old and new in our services. It is important for us to encourage people to speak with Jay and Kelly if they do not understand the changes. It is felt that there needs to be some clarification at 8am as to when to stand during the offertory hymn.

OSA will be open Father's Day to Labor Day for the 5pm Saturday and 8am Sunday services.

Diane Belcher who is the organist at St. Thomas's Church, Hanover will be doing Morning Prayer at 8am on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at OSA and would welcome people to join her.

Treasurer's Report: Becky presented the Ledger to Budget report and noted that we are spot on for expenditures and slightly ahead in income.

Newport: Kelly reported that Alice's sabbatical has begun but she remains the rector until the sabbatical is over. Due to the inclement weather on Pentecost, the service was moved into the Methodist church. Five people were baptized. Epiphany held a potluck lunch for Alice following the service. Hannah Anderson will be there May 22.

Sunshine Café will not be held in the fall due to the closing of the school. A search is on for another venue and/or activity. The children are anxious about what will happen next year.

Safety: We now have 2 wheelchairs – one upstairs in the front hall and one downstairs. Ushers should be aware of the Woodcrest "walkers" and ask them about communion. It may be time for another round of **greeter and usher training**.

Phillips Brooks Partnership: Lisa, Becky, and Nola have met to start the activity planning. Sign up sheets are on the table in the hall.

Refreshments: The spreads are getting more extensive and expensive after the 10 o'clock service. Guidelines may be necessary and there is a need for more volunteers.

**All these things are part of a growing parish:
training, sharing, and guidelines.**

The TV is now hooked up to the Wi-Fi, so it is now a Smart TV! We do need a keyboard for it that costs \$42. Bruce needs feedback about the taping. We also will need an external hard drive dedicated to the archiving of videos. Decisions are left to the support group made up of Bruce, Becky, Richard, and Jay. Lisa will talk to Billy and share information. Work is also being done on audio back-ups of the sermons.

Lay Leadership Institute: Bruce, Mark, Richard, and Martha attended. Bruce shared his worksheet based on the parochial reports with Kevin Nichols. Martha attended a workshop on the greening of the church and shared information with us and has offered to help with the greening of St. Andrew's.

By-Laws: what is the state of ours? Celeste made sure they were up to date.

Richard and Bruce both commented about how lucky we are compared to other churches in the diocese.

Novel Theology: The group has gotten smaller as it has gone on. Has it run its course?

Other business:

The feedback on our mission statement has been positive. A mission statement is a living, breathing document that:

- Should be short and easy to remember;
- Its main focus should require action;
- The congregation must own it;
- The congregation must participate in its development.

Ours fulfills these requirements.

Harvey mentioned that they are looking for someone to run the Silent Auction Table at the Summer Fair. Becky mentioned that she hoped we would have enough space for the Book Sale.

Richard will be away May 28- June 1. Becky will be away June 6-15. Lisa and Marni will be away the last week in June.

Our next meeting will be June 21, 2016 at 5pm.

The meeting closed with a moment of silence followed by a mutual blessing.

Respectfully submitted,

Marni Eaton, Clerk