

The Episcopal Church of St. Andrew – New London, NH

Vestry Meeting Minutes

17 September 2020

Present (via ZOOM): Jay MacLeod, Aaron Jenkyn, Joe Daly, Marni Eaton, Morris Edwards, Chris Heyl, Lisa Kelly, Lin Potter, Mike Quinn, Russ Register, Barbara Smith, Greg Vogt, Alice Perry.

Absent: Bruce Avery.

Guest: Jackie Thompson.

Jay opened the meeting with a prayer.

August minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Building Use: Jackie Thompson outlined her plans to open the **Thrift Shop** whose mission it is to provide good quality clothing to those in need. That mission had inspired the outside sales this summer but with cooler weather coming she proposes opening indoors with protocols for mask use, physical distancing and so on. Effort will be made to maximize air circulation in the room. It was moved, seconded and **voted unanimously to approve opening the Thrift Shop two days per week, with two volunteers on duty and observing appropriate protocols.** Jay also urged Jackie and Joann Lyon to explore creatively the possibility of engaging with schools to provide clothing sales off-site, an endeavor that may include identifying men to volunteer to assist with transporting clothing.

Marni spoke about seating in the parish hall for use by **outside groups.** Depending on how chairs are arranged with appropriate physical distancing, the room can hold a maximum of 32, fewer where people want to be facing one another or using tables. Jay shared printed guidelines for groups to observe and emphasized that building use is predicated on our personal contact with a named person for each group that we can trust to follow all guidelines. At this time groups we expect to use the room are AA, PEO, our craft group and our youth group. It was moved, seconded and **voted unanimously to adopt the guidelines as amended** during discussion.

Worship: Jay outlined his plans for rotating worship services on a four-week schedule. As currently, every other week will be the familiar pre-recorded virtual service. Between those two will be in-person Eucharist with live video, as has been done outdoors with parishioners providing their own bread for consecration. Seating at the 8 and 10 AM services would be limited to 30 with pre-registration. (Epiphany, depending on Bishop Rob's okay, may do the same on that Saturday.) Jay also noted that his reason for offering live worship just once a month is based on our experience of decreasing numbers at the outdoor services. The fourth Sunday service would be quite different, with high quality videography focusing on Jay, Aaron and Jack, modeled after "Imagine Church," as presented by the Diocese of Atlanta.

To support this new effort Jay outlined a proposal to the diocesan Mission Resources Committee, seeking funding of \$16,200 and expecting St. Andrew's to fund the remaining

\$12,100. The proposal includes hiring a young intern to learn videography, additional hours for Aaron and Jack, equipment, and promotion and publicity. It was moved, seconded and **voted unanimously to approve submission of the grant request as drafted.**

Finance: Mike sent in advance of the meeting the **ledger to budget** report for August. He offered to send comments separately, noting that the trends we have been seeing in the past months are continuing.

Mike also noted that work on the **2021 budget** has begun and called for vestry members to submit needs or wishes. Jay noted that Buildings and Grounds needs are of particular importance in this process.

Stewardship: Jay spoke of the pared down process this year. He will send the vestry a first draft of the stewardship letter and is hopeful that we can respond to it with, after prayerful consideration, an increase in our pledges. He would then add a sentence to the letter indicating that the vestry's response could be seen as a "measure of our health" as well as encouragement to respond similarly.

Due to time constraints on Zoom, we did not hear reports from Buildings and Grounds or the art committee.

Jay closed the meeting with a blessing.

Respectfully submitted,
Alice Perry, Clerk

Note: The next vestry meeting (on ZOOM) will be at 5 PM on 22 October (FOURTH Thursday). - <https://zoom.us/j/92836394912?pwd=OXMyenlKOWR6YmtlZ2VqdmlqSWY5QT09>