

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

Vestry Meeting Minutes

19 December 2019

Present: Jay MacLeod, Harvey Best, Joe Daly, Morris Edwards, Becky Forbes, Lin Potter, Russ Register, Barbara Smith, Greg Vogt, Alice Perry.

Absent: Bruce Avery, Marni Eaton, Lisa Kelly.

Jay opened the meeting with a prayer.

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

Stewardship: Morris noted we are almost at the end of our stewardship campaign, lacking just under \$15,000 of our goal. With 10 potential pledgers to be contacted he is optimistic we will reach the \$400,000 mark. Jay suggested Morris try to email those outstanding with follow-up phone calls, preferably before the end of 2019.

Treasurer Items – Where we are as of November 30 is very good, Becky said, noting that almost all 2019 pledges have been fulfilled. The general condition at St. Andrew's is very solid with daily cash flow in and out very steady. Having purchased major equipment and made some major building improvements, we still show a surplus in the **ledger to budget** report.

In reviewing the **2020 proposed budget** Becky noted that the ratio of personnel expenses to total expenses is "where it should be." Following diocesan guidelines salary increases in 2020 are at 2%. She reminded us that the budget is a guideline, a starting place that should be respected but not cast in stone – it is open to adjustment depending on current needs.

After reviewing the draft and making two amendments (increasing line 7556 for Music Director's Continuing Education from \$500 to \$750 and moving projected net surplus of \$1288 to line 5110 for Building Project) it was **moved, seconded and unanimously approved to accept the 2020 budget.**

Annual meeting dates – Due to the absence of key people in January, there will not be a "budget review" meeting for the parish one week prior to annual meeting. The approved budget will be presented to parishioners who will be invited to ask questions by email to Becky for response. In addition, *vestry members who asked questions during today's presentation are asked to submit those questions to the clerk for compilation for a future FAQ.*

Annual meeting will be held on 19 January between Sunday services (8:50 to 9:50 AM). In light of this date, the January **vestry meeting has been moved to 23 January** (from the usual third Thursday, 16 January).

Worship – Jay noted his schedule of services in the week ahead.

- Saturday: Ozment funeral, first Mass on the Mountain of the season, Epiphany service
- Sunday: two services at St. Andrew's

- Tuesday: three Christmas Eve services at St. Andrew's and one at Epiphany
- Wednesday: one Christmas Day service at St. Andrew's

On the Sunday after Christmas (29 December) 8 and 10 AM services will be Lucan lessons and carols. The following week, 5 January, youngsters are invited to participate in the Epiphany pageant at 10 AM.

Jay also noted that having kids in church every Sunday at 10 AM has a different feel and he notes they seem to be more engaged from start to finish.

Housing Allowance – Motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved stating that \$35,000 of Jay's 2019 salary is designated as Housing Allowance.

Lay Minister License Application – Application for Lay Eucharistic Visitor Wendy Sloan was approved by the vestry and signed by Jay and clerk Alice Perry.

Other Business – Harvey reported installation of a new refrigerator; also that attic insulation above offices, hallway and kitchen is slated to occur between 9 and 13 January.

With the experience obtained from our own energy audit, Harvey and a team from St. Andrew's and Epiphany did a walk-through of the church building in Newport and developed recommendations for a greening initiative there.

As this is their last vestry meeting, hearty thanks were given to Harvey and Becky for their service on the vestry.

Jay closed the meeting with a moment of silence and our mutual blessing.

Respectfully submitted,
Alice Perry, Clerk

Note: The next vestry meeting will be at 5 PM on 23 January.