

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

Vestry Meeting Minutes

23 July 2020

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

Jay opened the meeting with a prayer in remembrance of Mary Magdalene as a model for all of us.

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

Worship: Jay thanked all who had been responsible for laying the groundwork for our first outdoor Eucharists held on 19 July. Approximately 40 people attended each of the 8 AM and 10 AM services although more than that had pre-registered for the second service. Jay noted that he felt safe for himself and those attending, and Barbara reported she had been comfortable in attendance. Greg added that the online version worked well also. With the next outdoor services slated for 2 August, Jay remarked that it was wonderful to have been able to restore our sacramental life together.

Looking ahead, the vestry has agreed that due to logistics and the inability to have a shared picnic, we will forego an outdoor service at Camp Coniston on 16 August, but instead will celebrate the Eucharist outdoors at Gould Road.

In terms of public health beyond September, when we anticipate concluding outdoor worship, Mike noted that it is unclear what the infection situation might be although some current statistics are encouraging. Morris said that Colby-Sawyer students return to campus on 7 September which could adversely affect the infection rate locally. Jay suggested we make no policy now but keep our minds open and think creatively. While it doesn't seem likely that we would be moving to indoor worship in October, we have the every-other-week pre-recorded services as our foundation and will discuss further at our August meeting what options we have for the other weeks.

Finance: Mike referred to emailed financial reports, noting that revenue is consistent month to month and that expenses are tracking below the six-month level. Jay asked that we pause and give thanks that we are holding our own financially in the midst of pandemic.

It was moved, seconded and **voted unanimously to approve spending from our core budget as follows: \$800 to the Episcopal Chaplaincy at DHMC and \$500 each to Camp Coniston, Camp Wilmot and Barbara C. Harris Camp.** We expect to learn before the August meeting what the Outreach Commission will recommend for additional Last Sunday recipients. Jay suggests that we then consider either KREM or El Hogar to also receive core outreach funds should they not be chosen by the Outreach Commission.

Building Use: Marni recently attended a Diocesan Zoom meeting and reported positive feedback about our thrift shop operation outdoors. She will meet with Jackie Thompson next week to consider next steps with guidance offered by Goffstown, and will also consider if there is a way to include ministry with Colby-Sawyer College via the thrift shop.

Guidelines will need to be developed before a fall VNA clinic for flu shots as well as AA meetings that traditionally use our building. Things to consider include different doors for entrance and exit, whether use of kitchen facilities is permitted, limiting seating to metal chairs, responsibility for cleaning and cleaning supplies, and room capacity, all to be discussed at our next meeting.

Buildings and Grounds: Chris reported that Huckleberry Oil & Propane of Boscawen has set 24 August as the start of the boiler replacement project. They expect it to take 10 days. Chris will inquire whether Huckleberry can address needed drainage in response to roof run-off when there with their excavator. The excavation may require us to move the precise location of our outdoor worship on 30 August. Jay again offered thanks to Harvey, Woody, Ed, Chris and the entire Green Committee as well as to Greg whose bid to the diocese for funding resulted in a significant grant.

Chris also reported that the storage shed needs to be cleaned up, painted and have a new roof; he also plans to re-do the thrift shop sign.

Other Business: Lisa outlined the planned evening walk 26 July around Keyser Lake followed by a sunset swim by youth and some leaders as part of the UTO's Great EpisGOpal fundraising event to benefit ministries responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. Lisa noted that donations in support of the St. Andrew's/Epiphany team can be made at <https://unitedthankoffering.org/race/>

Jay closed the meeting with a blessing.

Respectfully submitted,
Alice Perry, Clerk

Note: The next vestry meeting (probably on ZOOM) will be at 5 PM on 20 August.