

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

Vestry Meeting Minutes

17 April 2018

Present: Bruce Avery, Joe Daly, Marni Eaton, Mark Kellett, Peter Ruth, Lisa Kelly, Barbara Smith, Alice Perry.

Absent: Harvey Best, Morris Edwards, Jay MacLeod, Lin Potter, Greg Vogt.

Marni opened the meeting with a prayer.

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

**Renewal workshop for vestries:** Bruce spoke about the workshop scheduled for May 12 at St. Andrew's. He has been in touch with Tina Pickering and expects more details from her next week. He has learned that the diocese brings "everything" needed. Bruce has some concerns about space issues.

In a brief discussion about **Lenten and Holy Week services**, it was reported that we received positive comments about Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. The sign-up sheets for refreshments after the three Easter Sunday services mostly worked well, but some gaps were noticed particularly re coffee and clean-up after the 10 AM service

**Peter's financial report:** Referring to reports distributed prior to the meeting, Peter noted that Bank of America has been slow to report quarter-end information to the Diocese so the liquidity report does not yet show an updated diocesan investment figure. Our financial position remains strong although Peter expressed concern about the level of open plate and contribution income compared to prior year and to budget for current year.

Due to a successful 2017, the Diocese has calculated a \$0.02 per unit dividend -- \$2646.03 for St. Andrew's. It was moved and seconded and unanimously approved to have the funds reinvested in the diocesan investment account rather than getting a check in that amount. Peter will inform the Diocese of our decision by submitting paperwork.

**MAP update and overview:** Bruce discovered that the Mission Action Plan is considerably out of date so will work to revise it before sending to the vestry for review and discussion. It is clear that the MAP needs routine (frequent) review to keep updated and functioning.

**Evangelism report** not discussed in Jay's absence.

**Vestry bios for Network:** At Anne Hall's suggestion and with agreement from the Executive Committee, we propose to publish "spiritual autobiographies" of vestry members in the bimonthly church newsletter. Beginning with those whose terms expire in 2019, Lisa and Peter have agreed to submit something for the May-June issue (by April 25). Barbara Smith has offered to submit something for the July-August issue. Mark or Bruce would also be expected to submit for the summer issue. We hope to also include a photo of each member. Alice

reminded the vestry that the newsletter deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of every even-numbered month but that anyone interested in writing their piece sooner rather than later is encouraged to do so. That way a deadline won't be missed!

**Seeking Shalom** not discussed in Jay's absence.

**Emergency plan:** Bruce spoke of an "active shooter" training session he and Marni recently attended. The two-hour presentation noted that the likelihood of an active shooter is small but the possibility cannot be ignored. They learned that in such situations, the shooter has tunnel vision so that others in the vicinity have an opportunity to take positive action.

Joe more recently attended a seven-hour presentation on the same topic by US and NH Homeland Security personnel. Joe will provide more detail at the May meeting, noting that the chance of an active shooter in any church is statistically about one in 126,000.

Joe also spoke about the past meeting he and Bruce had with New London police who recommend buying in to the Simply Safe security system. At a cost of about \$500 per year, cameras and panic buttons would be installed in critical places such as the Thrift Shop and office. The police department also recommended someone be present in the hallway at all times during services.

**Summer Updates:** Marni told us that Old St. Andrew's will be open for Sunday services from June 17 through September 7 this year. She anticipates cook-outs will begin no later than Wednesday, June 20 at Gould Road. We should all do what we can to quell political discussions at the cook-outs as those had a negative effect more than once last year. Phillips Brooks excursions are set for July 17-18 and July 24-25, as noted on our website.

There is still some concern about financial issues to do with Thanksgiving baskets and the defunct Kearsarge Food Bank. Bruce offered to work to resolve those affairs and to present it to the vestry for a vote at the May meeting.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Alice Perry, Clerk

***REMINDER: Beginning next month, our monthly meetings will be the third Thursday of the month. We meet next on May 17 at 5 PM.***