

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

Vestry Meeting Minutes

13 December 2018

Present: Jay MacLeod, Bruce Avery, Harvey Best, Joe Daly, Marni Eaton, Morris Edwards, Mark Kellett, Lisa Kelly, Lin Potter, Peter Ruth, Barbara Smith, Alice Perry.

Absent: Greg Vogt

Jay opened the meeting with a prayer appropriate to the season on this the feast day of St. Lucy. Martyred in 304, her name means light.

Financial report: Peter distributed the liquidity report and ledger to budget for October. He anticipates excellent expense control and likely budgeted income through the remainder of the year. As his term as Treasurer nears an end, Peter thanked these people for their assistance: Mark Kellett for help with the parochial report; George Jamieson for his auditing skills; Becky Forbes for her accounting skills; Jay for his high standards and raising the bar. Jay in turn thanked Peter for his hard work and conscientiousness.

Budget: Peter presented the 2019 budget draft. Motion made, seconded and unanimously **approved to adopt as the 2019 budget.**

Sabbatical: Jay noted that he has arranged clergy coverage for the months of March, April and May. By month weekend coverage will be Susan Langle, Robert Odierna and Winnie Skeates, with Leslie Smith and Jason Wells each covering one weekend. Midweek coverage by month will be Leslie Smith, Jim Ransom and Alice Roberts. Jay has budgeted compensation for services plus mileage for a total cost to the parish of about \$10,000. An additional \$700 from the parish will go towards Jay's expenses as part of a diocesan grant agreement.

Jay will be away about one-third of the time including time at the Monastery of Christ in the Desert in New Mexico. *It is important to honor his sabbatical, however, when he is at home in Wilmot, recognizing he is not available in any pastoral capacity.*

As to the **parish focus** during Jay's sabbatical, Marni cited the Diocesan focus of "renewing the faithful." During Lent we will run "Five Marks of Love," a program similar to "Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John" of last year. Information about the new program can be found at <https://www.ssje.org/monasticwisdom/#everyday>. [Note: scroll down, beneath Twelve Days of Christmas, on the right.]

Stewardship: Bruce reported receipt of pledges to date with a current shortfall of \$11,664.32 from the \$390,000 goal. A phone campaign will commence to contact 19 past pledgers who have not yet submitted new pledges as well as about 23 new members who have not yet pledged. Information about the benefits of "Required Minimum Distribution" from an IRA for those eligible will be sent via parish email.

Housing Allowance: Motion made, seconded and unanimously **approved stating that \$35,000 of Jay's 2018 salary is designated as housing allowance.**

Other Business:

- Bruce noted there has been some concern among parishioners that Last Sunday recipients are not being announced far enough in advance.
- Harvey has quotes from Granite State Glass for windows in the parish hall and church. To replace parish hall windows would cost \$17,000 but to permanently install insulated panels over the present windows would cost about \$6,800 as would the same treatment for 14 windows in the church. We asked Harvey to ask Granite State for names of other places where the less expensive option has been used as well as to ask if Granite State would guarantee replacement if moisture is present between the insulating panels and the glass.
- Jay responded to a question about our plans for interns at EpIC noting that (1) Omar has a work commitment in Europe through January and (2) he had just learned today that the State Department places the onus on the applicant for a business visa to certify that he will return home.
- Motion made, seconded and unanimously **approved pending the approval of the incoming treasurer that Peter increase the 2018 budgeted line item 7550 (Rector Sabbatical) from \$500 to \$8484 instead of seeing an increase in that line item in the 2019 budget.**

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 17 January.