

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

Vestry Meeting Minutes

21 March 2019

Present: Bruce Avery, Harvey Best, Joe Daly, Marni Eaton, Morris Edwards, Becky Forbes, Lisa Kelly, Lin Potter, Russ Register, Barbara Smith, Alice Perry.

Absent: Jay MacLeod, Greg Vogt

Marni opened the meeting with a prayer.

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

Financial report: Becky passed out a cash flow report showing deposits and withdrawals in 2018 month by month and average month, indicating that we have more than sufficient funds in the checking account. It was moved, seconded and **voted unanimously to authorize Becky to move \$30,000 from the checking account to the Capitol One capital reserve account.**

Becky also reported a bequest in excess of \$88,000 from Nancy C. Draper to be used for our music program. Those funds have been deposited with the Diocesan Investments Trust and will result in about \$4500 annually via quarterly dividends.

After considering a few options for about \$2800 remaining in the account from last November's Israel pilgrimage, it was moved, seconded and **voted unanimously to set the funds aside for the anticipated youth pilgrimage in 2020, contingent on support from the 2018 pilgrims.** Bruce will send an email to those 2018 pilgrims giving them the option to receive a refund if they desire, reducing the total amount set-aside for 2020 by that amount.

Buildings and Grounds:

Harvey reported the **painting and refurbishing of the thrift shop** recently completed. He also described the recently-completed **energy audit** that included use of thermal cameras to identify air leaks. The auditors will take about three weeks to fully develop the data from their building tour; they will return with recommendations along with a projection of our return on investment.

Lisa also reported in connection with the **Green Committee** that she had received a suggestion to install composting outside Old St. Andrew's. Concern about marauding bears and other wildlife was expressed.

Joe along with Chris Heyl will be visiting a stove shop in an effort to replace the **kitchen stove** as approved at our February meeting.

Mission Action Plan (MAP): Bruce announced Russ will be the new "owner" of the MAP, tasked with updating it and keeping it active. Vestry members will individually review the previous plan that we received by email and provide feedback to Russ indicating what has been accomplished, what should remain on the plan with a future date or as an ongoing effort along

with possible names of those to be responsible for shepherding an item to success. Bruce has set a target date of 1 June to finalize what will be our current version of the MAP.

Policy approvals: It was moved, seconded and **voted unanimously to adopt and document implementation of the Model Policy for the Protection of Children and Youth and Model Policy for the Protection of Vulnerable Adults.**

Rainbow flag update: Bruce spoke about options for replacing the oversized flag that was taken down last week in compliance with the Town of New London's order. While many parishioners favor replacing the flag (verbally and via the new suggestion box) with one of the proper dimensions, the vestry considered whether the rainbow flag was the best way to convey a stance against prejudice and bigotry – or does it perhaps instead send an exclusionary message, while at the same time recognizing that for some its coming down can indicate exclusion? Would a large cross and smaller signs with verbal messages of inclusion serve us better, without inviting harassment from those who object to the rainbow's associations with a particular group? We will continue to consider options.

Other Business:

Bruce reported that **credit card machines** in the thrift shop and office have been removed due to cost structure significantly out of line with the vendor's original proposition.

Barbara reported that messages in the **suggestion box** addressed the rainbow flag, noted above, and facilities at Old St. Andrew's.

Due to services on Maundy Thursday, the **next vestry meeting** has been moved from the third to the fourth Thursday in April.

Bruce 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 25 April.