

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

Vestry Meeting Minutes

25 April 2019

Present: Bruce Avery, Harvey Best, Joe Daly, Marni Eaton, Becky Forbes, Lisa Kelly, Russ Register, Barbara Smith, Greg Vogt, Alice Perry. Guest: James Dunford

Absent: Jay MacLeod, Morris Edwards, Lin Potter.

Bruce opened the meeting with a prayer.

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

Financial report: Becky passed out a first quarter budget to actual report showing we are right on budget. She is still working on producing a balance sheet and is also in the process of writing out accounting procedures to more accurately keep track of the church's income and expenditures. She has learned since reporting last month – based on an incomplete or inaccurate record at the time -- that the amount remaining from the 2018 pilgrimage is closer to \$1041 than the \$2800 previously reported.

Pilgrim feedback: Marni reported in response to an email to the 2018 pilgrims, giving them the option of having those leftover funds (now reduced) set-aside towards a 2020 youth pilgrimage or to receive a refund, that all but two pilgrims opted for the set-aside. Two will be refunded their share of the \$1041.

Buildings and Grounds:

Harvey reported collecting brush at Gould Road and Old St. Andrew's is in progress. He has also acquired a spray to help control ants found in the sanctuary.

Harvey also reported that the **Green Committee** will ask the energy-auditing firm for more detail about suggested fixes together with a better understanding of any return on investment from those suggestions.

Noting that our electricity cost has been rising significantly, Becky suggested that use of the copier for bulletin printing (8 AM, 10 AM and Epiphany) is responsible in that Eversource sets a high-demand charge based on a snapshot of usage. If the snapshot is taken during that one afternoon when the copier is in extended use it inaccurately magnifies our actual usage and consequently the assessment rate.

Joe provided a detailed report of the efforts he and Chris Heyl have made to obtain a replacement kitchen stove. It was moved, seconded and **voted unanimously to approve expenditure of about \$15,000 to obtain a Garland 60" range with six burners and a 24" griddle, plus fire suppression system.**

Beyond St. Andrew's: James Dunford reported that he is working to line up potential applicants for **EpIC**, to be interviewed once Jay has returned from Sabbatical. He with Aaron Jenkyn hopes to see a fully functional community by fall.

He also reported that **Epiphany's** focus on Messy Church has been very successful. Both services held to date have seen a wonderful turnout with powerful integration of the Eucharist followed by a shared meal and conversation. Aaron expects to introduce Messy Church at St. Andrew's eventually.

Epiphany sees between 20 and 30 participants for a given Saturday service and James reports a positive balance between outreach and worship, including the weekly meetings for youth of 4-H and Upbeat choir.

A home communion led by James for 15 people occurred at **Sunapee Cove** on Easter, the first of what will be monthly third-Sunday services there. Lay Eucharistic Visitors Jen Giles and Alice Perry assisted; James invites others interested in serving to let him know.

Mission Action Plan (MAP): Russ distributed a revised MAP based on feedback he received prior to the meeting, and additional modifications were suggested. We will review a new draft at the May meeting with an eye to a goal of 1 June to finalize what will be our current version of the MAP.

Flag update: The new flag chosen by email among vestry members is hanging on the parish hall wall facing Main Street, declaring "All God's Children Are Welcome Here" above the Episcopal crest. Bruce suggests the same message should appear on our website and perhaps on our stationery.

Prayer list update: Marni with Wendy Sloan and James Dunford is working to find a better way to handle the prayer list. One step already taken is to remove it from bulletins before those are posted on the website, for confidentiality. The original intent had been that names would be on the list for one month only (without a renewed request).

Other Business:

- Katrina Wagner has received permission to establish a permanent women's **Bible study** group following a successful 5 Marks of Mission experience.
- A suggestion for consideration by the **Outreach Commission** was heard.
- The **panic button** was accidentally engaged this week. The result verified that procedures are working properly.
- Interest in re-establishing the once-existing **Music Committee and/or Worship Committee** was expressed.

Marni 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 16 May.