

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

Vestry Meeting Minutes

18 March 2021

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

Absent: Morris Edwards

Jay opened the meeting with the collect for the feast of St. Joseph, on the eve of that day.

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

Christian Formation: Aaron spoke of the Stations of the Cross art walk and the story walk at Epiphany, both of which were a struggle to keep erected due to the frequent powerful wind. She thanked Chris and others for their efforts to stabilize and make sturdy each post. Aaron also reported that about 20 people attended the art workshop on Zoom with Christian author/artist Roger Hutchinson.

Jay reported three dialog circles on Zoom for Sacred Ground, with Lucretia Jevne, Susan Schweizer and Jay as group leaders. The leaders debrief with one another following each session.

Re-opening (Office, Parish Hall, Thrift Shop): Prior to the meeting Marni had circulated an email from Jackie Thompson in which she outlined connections made with Colby-Sawyer College and Go Lightly for distribution and sale of thrift shop items. In anticipation of a mid-April re-opening of the shop, when volunteers will be fully vaccinated, we recommend the shop be open fully for four days each week and one day by reservation, from 10 AM to noon. This is to prevent too many customers at a time if the shop were to be open fewer days. All protocols for masking, distancing and ventilation are to be observed, and operation is subject to benchmarks set for amount of COVID in the surrounding area.

Joe spoke of the office and parish hall, noting that no decision has been made as to when to open the parish hall or to what groups. Jay noted that Shelly needs to remind visitors to the office about protocol there, and we will be following diocesan and CDC guidelines regarding capacity, distancing and timeline for opening to groups.

Worship: Jay noted that he and the staff are unsure about next steps, something they will decide together in a meeting Monday. To assist the staff, we broke into several small discussion groups to ponder (1) in what ways can worship meet our emotional and spiritual needs (what's missing)? And (2) what ideas do we have for what form worship should take to meet (what will satisfy) those needs? Each group had a scribe who sent notes to Jay and Aaron by email for their staff meeting.

Finance: Mike submitted statements by email prior to the meeting, noting that we are only two months into the year and are very much on track.

Art Committee: Alice reported that the Art Committee is very thankful for Aaron's ability to inspire so many artists among us, and wishes to express thanks for the artists and their art work for the Stations of the Cross. The majority of the art meeting was devoted to the logistics of themed art displays planned once the building is fully open, and the committee is hopeful that there will be an equally good response when that invitation is issued. She said that ideas for a policy for loaned art were discussed and Greg and she have been tasked with preparing a draft policy for the next meeting. The committee is looking forward to Chris Heyl's attendance at their next meeting to discuss readiness in the parish hall to hang art and lighting over the art behind the choir in the sanctuary.

Any Other Business: Aaron asked about the pastoral care calls the vestry has been making since our last meeting. All reported the calls are going well.

Jay shared several other pastoral-care matters.

Jay also outlined a plan approved by our Treasurer to purchase a new phone and laptop to improve our ability to stream hybrid live services. These will allow communication between each device and enable video editing, something Jay called a huge achievement in our effort to offer compelling worship virtually.

Aaron closed the meeting with a reading from scripture and a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Alice Perry, Clerk

Note: The next vestry meeting (on ZOOM) will be at 5 PM on 22 April (NOTE – 4th Thursday) --
<https://zoom.us/j/92836394912?pwd=OXMyenlKOWR6YmtlZ2VqdmlqSWY5QT09>

Meeting ID: [928 3639 4912](https://zoom.us/j/92836394912)

Passcode: 640636