

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

Vestry Meeting Minutes

23 March 2023

Present: Jay MacLeod, Morris Edwards, Fifi Mitchell, Mike Quinn, Russ Register, Nancy Rollins, Karen Zurheide, Alice Perry.

Absent: Billy Kelly, Lin Potter, Claire Pace, Russ Potter, Nonie Reynders.

Guest: Harvey Best

Jay opened the meeting with a prayer.

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

**Buildings and Grounds Update:** Russ introduced three topics: solar installation, reshingling of the roof and reconstruction of the patio.

Revision Energy has completed the design for the **solar panels** and is getting ready to install same sometime between May and August, and not before reshingling is completed.

Of the four proposals received for **reshingling** the entire church roof, Lavorgna's bid at \$58,500 for 40-year shingles is recommended by the building and grounds committee. The cost includes \$1000 to install a new basement stairwell skylight. Work can begin soon, Russ reported. Because of New London signage restrictions and the inability for people on Main Street to recognize our building as a church, Jay would like to have a cross in different-colored shingles on the roof and will check with the New London Planning Board (Tim Paradis) to see if such a step might be viable. He will also check with the diocese and asked Harvey to ask Lavorgna about such a design and its appearance in shingles. With assurance from Mike that the cost for reshingling can be paid for out of capital reserve funds, **it was moved, seconded and unanimously voted to accept the Lavorgna bid for reshingling.**

Four proposals were also received for **patio reconstruction** with the building and grounds committee recommending Old Yankee Stoneworks who bid \$41,250. The committee recommends adding \$8250 as a contingency in case there is rebar beneath the patio that would require additional labor to deal with. The proposal includes permeable paver blocks, repair and patching of stone wall and installation of a French drain. Steps up to church would be granite slabs (10-feet wide) and steps down from the patio would be 5-feet wide, with paver blocks out to the driveway. With an already-approved application to the Diocesan Advance fund for a loan to cover this cost, **it was moved, seconded and unanimously voted to accept the Old Yankee Stoneworks bid plus contingency at a total of \$49,500 for this project.**

Harvey reported a new lock and crash bar on the door from the parking lot, expecting that will resolve recent issues with locking and unlocking. Jay offered thanks to Harvey for his commitment to all the work he has done for the building and grounds committee.

**New Vestry Orientation:** Karen and Claire will host an orientation session for the three new vestry members (others also welcome), using the Vestry Resource Guide and other materials. This will become a model that can be used from year to year. Alice conveyed a message from Anne Hall that each vestry member has a folder in the office which should be checked from time to time. New vestry members were also invited to contribute their bios for the next issue of the Network newsletter.

**Building Use Policy:** Referring to a draft policy sent out with the meeting agenda, Jay thanked past Warden Joe Daly for his work, noting the current draft now included less legalese and some items from a Diocesan template. It was decided to notify users of the kitchen alarm during their orientation (by Shelly) but that it would not be necessary to mention it in the body of the policy. **It was moved, seconded and unanimously voted to accept the new building use policy.**

**Adult Formation:** Jay spoke of the extraordinary turnout to the lecture series following 10 AM worship to discuss The Chosen, with some 40 to 50 people attending each week. Where the original plan was to take turns leading those sessions with Kathleen Rusnak, Jay has concluded that his time constraints would prevent him from doing the same quality presentation as Kathleen so, except for Sundays she is away when Jay will preside, Kathleen will continue leading those discussions.

Jay noted that where resident clergy had previously only been paid when Jay was out of town, he has changed that so that they are compensated when preaching on a Sunday or taking the Thursday Eucharist. In that vein, he will also provide an honorarium to Kathleen for her Christian education efforts.

Jay had expected to be offering an online Bible study by this time but has revised those plans and expects to offer a program on Tuesday evenings on Zoom after Pentecost, when discussions of The Chosen have concluded. He hopes the breakout room feature on Zoom will permit people to discuss how the readings are touching them spiritually. He is also seeking a co-leader to share the teaching load, and others to assist hosting the Zoom interface.

**Voorhees:** Karen reported that she and Jay will be visiting Denmark, South Carolina on 29 March. Jay had sent materials in advance outlining what St. Andrew's is looking for in the hopes that candidates for summer internships/scholarships will have seen those advertisements and present themselves as candidates to be interviewed.

**Missioner:** The position has been advertised and will be half-funded by the Diocese. A strong candidate (of two applicants) will meet with Jay, Karen and Billy on 31 March for an interview.

**Migrant Justice:** As we have done in the past, a community presentation by Migrant Justice will be held at St. Andrew's on 3 April. Karen noted that the organization has been getting recent and reputable media coverage.

**Finance:** Mike reported that our numbers are solid, with revenue consistent with the budget and expenses slightly below. A reformatted report should be available when we meet in April.

**Daycare Feasibility:** Karen will contact someone who can inspect our site to ascertain if our facility does or does not meet state regulations for childcare. This is an important first step for considering the community's need for childcare as expressed by Brian Frenkiewich at annual meeting.

**Any Other Business:** Alice asked for approval of an initial license application for Bill Morgan as Lay Eucharistic Visitor. **It was moved, seconded and unanimously voted to approve the application,** which was then signed by Alice and Jay for Anne Hall to submit to the Diocese.

Fifi reported that she and Claire with Jay are planning a **newcomers gathering** on 9 May at 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alice Perry, Clerk

**Note: The next vestry meeting will be 20 April 2023.**