

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting
February 19, 2020

The dinner meeting started at 7:20 p.m. with a prayer over the meal and introductions all around. Those present were Rev. Reed Loy, Anne McCausland, Senior Warden, Clarke Kidder, Junior Warden, Kerrie Diers, Treasurer, Lucy Crichton, Chaplain, Audrey Knight, Betty Whinn, Betsy Wilder, Brian Tucker, Diane Les Becquets, Steve Largy, Peter Daley and Pam Manus Clerk. Tom Burack was unable to attend.

Chaplain Lucy Crichton led us in prayer and readings. After silent and shared reflections we closed in prayer.

Rev. Loy offered a brief orientation of a vestry's mission for the new members. There are 3 duties of a vestry. Fiduciary, Strategic and Creative. Fiduciary covers the buildings, budget and well tended finances of the parish. Strategic covers the make-up and connections within the parish, the By-laws and structure of ministries, how we work and walk together. Creative is how we see the path forward, plans for the future. Audrey Knight requested that we bring out the organizational chart of the ministries that was put together last year. It shows clearly the flow and their connections with each other and with the By-laws mandated Committees. This will be brought to the March meeting. We talked about the heart of the leader. The Vestry is working on sharing and reflecting upon scripture and prayer, believing that the way the leader goes so goes the group. Lucy Crichton brought out that we are on a spiritual journey together, as well as individually deepening our faith.

Consent Agenda: Senior Warden Anne McCausland offered the Consent Agenda for approval.

- January Financial Report for the File: Kerrie Diers, Treasurer, stated that her goal was to present a short clear picture of our finances each meeting, with a more in-depth look quarterly. Anyone can ask for clarification at any time as we will get reports before our meetings. Full report can be found in the office.
- Outreach/Mission: A brief list of questions about and ideas for loose plate money has been offered for consideration. Full report can be found in the office.

- Committee Reports:
- Building and Grounds has a New Business item. All planned projects going well. Full report can be found in the office.
- Worship and Music: Rev. Loy reported that the committee is working on a change of worship format for Good Friday. Full report can be found in the office.
- Christian Formation: The series Death, Dying and Resurrection is well attended. Details in the E-blast. Also plans are complete for a Lenten program. Sunday evening family meal with discussions based on the “Signs of Life” - Faithful questions from the society of Saint John the Evangelist. Full report can be found in the office.

The consent agenda was approved.

January Vestry Meeting Minutes: The January Vestry minutes were approved with with the clarification: Tom Burack had asked that the loose plate discussion and outreach ministries talk be addressed in May. Abstentions by new members Kerrie Diers, Betsy Wilder, Steve Largy and Diane Les Becquets noted. Brian Tucker also abstained as he was absent from last months meeting.

Vestry Delegate to Diocesan Convention: The delegate from the Vestry will join Dave Young, Trish Chandler, Vickie Haines and Alternate Marti Hunt. The commitment is for 4 meetings during the year, joining with 6 local parishes to bring points of interest, suggestions and shared experiences to the meetings and represent our parish at the Diocesan Convention in November 2020. Steve Largy volunteered to accept this position.

Designating Loose Plate Money through June 2020: Diane Les Becquets offered the suggestion of *Back In The Saddle* a local Hopkinton equine therapy center. Back in the Saddle Equine Therapy Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit association located in Hopkinton New Hampshire. BITS ETC is dedicated to providing quality time with a horse for people from 2 to 92. Certified instructors and therapists provide safe and effective treatment for people living with disabilities. Therapeutic riding can improve physical strength and balance. Lessons are provided all year round. Betty Whinn offered Episcopal Disaster Relief (EDR) as another group to consider. After discussion Kerrie Diers moved that we give March

and April's loose plate monies to Back In The Saddle. May and June's loose plate monies given to EDR. This was seconded by Betty Whinn and passed unanimously.

Adapt Procedure for Consent Agenda: Anne McCausland explained the changes to the minutes with respect to the Consent Agenda. In the minutes the committee/document will be named and a brief description of content will be reported. The full document (as sent via email to members prior to the meetings) will be held in the office. Discussion was had on use of Drop Box for Vestry members and web posting. We will work with Kim Wertz on this. Kerrie Diers moved that the Vestry minutes be posted on the St. Andrew's Webpage, consider a drop box be established, and the monthly consent agenda reports be held in St. Andrew's office. Steve Largy seconded this and it passed unanimously.

Framework for Fundraising: Rev. Loy started the discussion on fundraising. Many joined in with memories of fundraisers in the past, who was involved and what the goals were. The goal of Christian Stewardship is the love, respect and care of what God has given us. Our fundraising should reflect this. We should involve our whole congregation. With this as our base, we will reflect and bring back ideas for consideration.

New Business:

Reviewing Memorial Garden Planter Proposal: The Memorial Garden Committee submitted a proposal for a 6' x 2' granite planter to the Building and Grounds Committee. This proposal is now before the Vestry. Members of a family long associated with our parish would like to give a gift that would add beauty to the garden. Questions were answered and for those that want to "see" the site, Clarke Kidder offered to mock up a wood frame the size of the planter. This proposal will be discussed further at the March meeting with a decision then. Full proposal will be held in the office.

Reviewing Finance Committee proposed procedure for designated donations: The finance committee has written a procedure for donations given for specific charities. For example, money given for Christian Formation books, or money given for Memorial Garden. The procedure would insure that the money was put where it was intended and a

procedure for accounting for it was in place. It seems reasonable and responsible. This will be voted on at the March meeting.

Upcoming special celebrations/events/dates: Special events and celebrations were reviewed. These will be on the web and in the e-blast.

Thank you cards: Thank you cards will be sent to Larry and Wendy Rice and Patti Gerseny by Audrey Knight, to Pat Walker by Betty Whinn, to Henry Hirschfeld by Diane Les Becquets and to Vicky Haines and Bert Cooper by Anne McCausland.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Pam Manus, Clerk