

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

Vestry Meeting Minutes

18 August 2022

Present on Zoom: Jay MacLeod, Joe Daly, Chris Heyl, Claire Pace, Lin Potter, Mike Quinn, Russ Register, Nonie Reynders, Chuck Thompson, Karen Zurheide, Alice Perry.

Absent: Morris Edwards, Billy Kelly.

Jay opened the meeting with a prayer.

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

Worship: Jay noted that **live-streaming** has suffered in recent weeks for a variety of reasons. Luna Landry has been learning to manage the live-streaming now that Toby is heading to college. Luna will work two hours per week at \$13/hour. Another person is learning to work with the camera for occasions when Sal is unavailable to do that.

Messy Church will be offered 28 August from 4 to 6 PM. As before there will be multiple activities before a brief worship service and supper. Jay encouraged vestry to come and engage at each station, reminding us that it is not just for kids.

A service of Taizé/compline will be offered at **Old Saint Andrew's** on 11 September at 7 PM.

Vestry Priorities: Karen referred to and summarized an earlier email from Jay outlining the three groups and their leaders: Christian Formation (Chuck Thompson), Engaging Children and Families (Billy Kelly) and Pastoral Care of Older People (Claire Pace). Groups are expected to meet as soon as possible to set goals with hoped-for action plans that specify how, what, when and who by November.

Buildings and Grounds: In his final meeting with us, Chris spoke about gutter work on the rear patio roof that will be installed within the next two months and paid for by a parishioner. He has also met with a contractor to repair and replace the patio and steps, a project that will include drainage under the patio. A second meeting is set for 30 August to decide on an action plan. Jay noted that the investment committee had asked the vestry to investigate using a loan from the Diocesan Advance Fund to pay for the roof replacement at Old Saint Andrew's, but because we have successfully reached our target of \$21,000 from parishioners toward the roof, he suggested that the projects Chris outlined were a priority and the price tag a better option for a loan from the diocese. Mike confirmed that he intends to meet with Bengé Ambroggi next week to gather information about the loan fund and to share our interest in it.

Jay also noted that with Chris' departure from his roles, Shelly is to be more involved with communications and administrative aspects of B&G projects; and also that Harvey Best who served in those roles previously, has offered to step back in as B&G and vestry.

It was **moved, seconded and unanimously voted to support a loan application to the Diocese Advance Fund for \$58,000** (pending Mike's anticipated conversation with Bengé) **to partially**

cover the cost of repair and replacing patio, steps and drainage work on the north side of the church.

Jay noted we are “hugely grateful” to Chris for his ministry.

Finance: Mike sent out his report in four files by email in advance of the meeting: Treasurer’s Report, Balance Sheet, Income Expense Comparison and Ledger to Budget, each for the period ending 31 July 2022.

Planning Ahead: Jay noted the **Harvest Fair** set for 17 September and the need for volunteers to step up for the several activities. Live jazz can be heard throughout the day. The church will also observe the harvest in the Sunday services 18 September. We will take up a proposal at the October meeting to schedule both a summer and Christmas fair in 2023, a previous practice altered by COVID.

Jay also spoke of the **Navajoland** pilgrimage, with eight participants so far and an invitation for four others to join the group. As much as to do some mission work in the form of helping construct a tiny house (which recent Last Sunday donations supported), the trip is a pilgrimage to learn and be partners with Native Americans – “to repair the breach” -- to whom much damage has been done in our country.

The **Bishop’s Visitation** is set for 30 November, St. Andrew’s Day, at 7 PM. This will be a fulfilling occasion for all interested people to be confirmed and received into the church, with learning opportunities around those rites, after a hiatus from COVID.

Any other business: The date of the **October vestry meeting** has been changed from 20 October to **27 October** in response to the dates of the Navajoland trip (14-21 October).

Jay closed the meeting with a moment of silence and together we offered a mutual blessing in the words of the grace.

Respectfully submitted,
Alice Perry, Clerk

Note: The next vestry meeting will be 22 September.