

St. Peters Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes
February 25, 2024

Attendance: Fr. Tom Mousin, Anita Chandler, Wayne Franklin, Bob Simmons, Kathleen McCormick, Tom Ainsworth, Lenita Richard, Lorna Blackmer, Thora Easton, Allison Schroth, Linda Foster, Judith Howes, Toby Goodyear, Jessie Vega, Myrna Koonce

Absent: Patty Lamb, David Savage

Opening Prayer

Caring/Sharing

Minutes from December 19, 2023 were approved.

REPORTS:

1. Treasurer's Operations Reports (Bob Simmons)
2. Fidelity Investments Report (Bob Simmons)
3. Diocesan Report (Bob Simmons)

MISSION and MINISTRY REPORTS

1. Prayer Ministry (Allison Schroth and Emma Bond). Emma started a new spreadsheet for 2024.
2. Creation Care (Janene Gorham) Janene hopes to continue recycling efforts, plant a small garden in spring, and show a video about Eco Maine during coffee hour in the spring.
3. St. Elizabeth's Partnership (Anita Chandler): 2nd Tuesday of the month is our day. Looking for more volunteers. There will be a volunteer luncheon in April, more information to come. Also, Youth Service Corps, purchased supplies at Marden's with a \$1000 grant.
4. Aging With Grace (Fr. Tom): The February meeting included a discussion on hospice (available on request). Next month's topic is Maine's death with dignity law.
5. Project Feed (Bob Simmons): Contributions are lower since we are not passing the plate.
6. Merry Hearts (Anita Chandler): First one was last Thursday the 22nd. 8 people attended. Will do it once a month, purely a meet and greet.
7. Sunday Liturgy Review (Fr Tom). We may need a rota for online access in the summer. Thora Easton is willing to be trained on the system.
 - a. Minister Rota (crucifer/Eucharistic minister/ushers) (Wayne Franklin): Rota is well filled; Garrett Kenniston will be a crucifer on March 24.

- b. Acolytes (Fr. Tom) 4 children have volunteered. This will happen when their schedules allow. David Savage may serve as Verger, one who shepherds people through the service.
- c. Readers/Flowers (Anita): There are more than 11 readers. Easter flower information is available.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Camera System (Bob Simmons): New software from Mevo is available and will work with Jim Campbell and will do the setup. There will be another test run soon.
2. Vestry Retreat: Next Step: Why Are We Here? (Fr. Tom): Emphasis on community engagement, focus on future along with formation for the younger members and incorporating people into the community.
3. Renovation of Altar Area (Fr. Tom): Committee will be gathered after the vestry to select a date to meet.
4. Masonry work (Bob Simmons): 5 weeks more of week, will be around the corner 1 week before Easter.
5. Stained Glass Window Damage (Wayne Franklin/Bob Simmons): The Stained Glass company will be there when mason has staging up. The damage from hammer is completely covered by insurance; the insurance company will pay stained glass window company directly.
6. Floor Refinishing (Bob Simmons/Wayne Franklin): Floor refinishing for the church has been built into the budget, around \$6,000. May need someone to remove/store/reinstall pews. Wayne & Bob will get more information and bring to next vestry meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Capital campaign (Fr. Tom): Fr. Tom spoke with Brian Raiche, whose company was used at St. John's in Charlestown. He gave Tom some ideas, and mentioned this was small for his company, but gave us some suggestions and will help with questions. Lincoln Clark is willing to help. Most campaigns do solicit some pledges before beginning the campaign. We also have the name of Lucy Leitzell, someone Myrna knows, who has done this work, too.

The beginnings of a committee has been formed to begin to establish goals, with suggested projects, timeline and determine amount. Current committee: Anita Chandler, Tom Ainsworth, Lenita Richard, Bob Simmons, Allison Schroth and Toby Goodyear. Others are welcome and will be solicited.

2. Request for Funding Support for Youth Service Corps (Fr. Tom): Youth Service Corps is looking for some financial support for administrative costs. It is not in our budget, it would be an additional expense. **Motion that St Peter's designate \$1000 that is not paid in one lump sum. If grant is obtained, that will cover the cost.** All in favor. No one abstained or opposed.
3. Discussion of Parochial Report (Fr. Tom/Bob Simmons): Fr. Tom and Bob are working on this, due March 1.
4. Online giving/QR Code (Fr. Tom/Bob Simmons): It will start showing up in printed materials and around the parish.
5. Pew Cards (Fr. Tom/Bob Simmons): We will update pew cards and get information.
6. Parish Directory (Fr. Tom/Bob Simmons): We need an updated one and will begin the process.

Reports

1. Junior Warden (Wayne Franklin): Wayne will be coordinating working days for the yard.
2. Senior Warden (Anita Chandler): Anita expressed how delighted she is to see the growth and parish welcoming newcomers.
3. Rector's Report (Fr. Tom): Rodney Richard was recognized with St. Peter's Award. All were moved by the moment. The new ciborium is being ordered; Cindy Sherwood and Lorna will/have donated the funds to cover the cost. It will be ordered this week, and when received a dedication service will be held. Fr. Tom is spending more time being spent on talking with newcomers. We need to be mindful of formation experiences will we provide for newcomers. There are also some parishioners looking for rides; we will be talking about this. Keep the capital campaign and the growth of the parish in your prayers.
4. Postulants Report (Myrna Koonce): Thanked everyone for welcoming her so warmly. She will be reaching out to some people as she develops a plan for a ministry project. In commenting on parish, she is struck by size of vestry and the whole-hearted participation of so many.

Calendar (see separate file)

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen McCormick, Clerk