

St. John's Episcopal Church

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting

September 18, 2022

Held In-Person

In Attendance: Jay Bauer, Joseph Claro, Sara Coles, Laura Daly, Mary Davis, Veronique Dulack, David Gillespie, Fr. Geoff Hahneman, Susan McFeely.

Absent: Hunter Brown, Rebecca Bent, Andris Kalnins.

Opening Prayer: Fr. Geoff Hahneman opened the meeting with a prayer.

Voting on Minutes from July 17th Vestry Meeting: The Vestry approved the minutes, and they are now online.

Finance Committee Report: Joe reported that we have approximately \$104,000 cash on hand.

The Committee had its first meeting to establish a procedure for paying monthly bills and to establish an efficient accounting system. Monthly invoices will be submitted and reviewed on the 10th of each month and paid online by the 15th.

Mary will present the financial report for the St. John's Foundation at the next meeting.

The Last Will and Testament for Hedda von Goeben provided an additional bequest to St. John's. This bequest has highlighted how important it is for St. John's Legacy Society to work with parishioners to add St. John's in their wills.

Mary and Joe will work on the 2023 draft budget.

Property Committee Update: Susan reported that Ira has renewed the lease on the rectory through the end of January 2023. It is hoped that he will continue to rent the rectory through 2023.

The landscaping around the rectory and other church property has been completed. The rectory needs new shrubs, and this is a good time of year to plant while taking advantage of end of season discounts. The Vestry approved up to \$2,000 to purchase and plant these shrubs.

Susan also noted that about 28 windows in the rectory are painted shut and a carpenter is needed to open them and assess them for possible repairs. David will give Susan the name of his carpenter who is experienced with windows with anchor sashes.

Susan will also contact Tom Hollinger about the rectory's status within the Historic District rules before any repairs to the windows are undertaken.

St. John's Holiday Fete: Susan discussed initial plans for the Holiday Fete.

Dates are Friday, December 2nd, and Saturday, December 3rd.

Same basic format as last year.

There are 8 vendors lined up thus far.

Due to the town's rules on preparation of foods that are sold, there will be no larder this year. Due to the town's rules on preparation of foods that are sold, there will be no larder this year. The Fete committee is considering making a donation to a local charity. The vestry did approve making a \$2,000 contribution to the charity designated by the committee, so that we can publicize the fact that such charity will be supported by the fete, and that such contribution will be made irrespective of the net amount of the fete proceeds.

Update on Legacy Society (Mary and Rebecca): The legacy society is still in the planning stages.

Update on Social Gatherings: It was agreed that our main goal is to attract young members and more outreach is needed. It is hoped that the schedule of Family Services will help us to achieve this goal. To promote the Family Service, Laura will contact the vice principal at Shepaug. Jay will contact Rumsey and The Gunn School.

Warden's Report: There has been no update from Bishop Ian regarding the letter of agreement between St. John's and Fr. Hahneman. It is expected that a one-year renewal, beginning on December 1st, 2022, will be approved.

Rector's Report: Geoff asked the Vestry if he could form a Stewardship Committee. It was agreed that the Vestry will populate this committee.

Sara asked Geoff to appoint a committee to provide a slate for the annual meeting and the vestry approved. The slate will include an alternate for Convention.

Geoff discussed adding a vestry member to serve the balance of Larry Littlefield's 2022 term. David made a motion to approve the appointment of Michael Del Nin to fill out the remainder of Larry's 2022 term. This motion was seconded, and the proposal passed unanimously. Jay volunteered to ask Michael if he would agree to accept the appointment. Jay will ask Michael if he is interested in serving.

Concerns: Laura noted that she will be away for the annual meeting. Mary kindly offered to do the annual meeting minutes.

Closing Prayer: Fr. Hahneman closed the meeting with a prayer.

Next Meeting: Sunday, October 16, after 10AM service.

Submitted by: Laura Daly