

St. John's Episcopal Church  
Minutes of the Vestry Meeting  
Sunday, August 18, 2019

**Present:** J. Beattie, H. Brown, D. Campbell, C. Dubow, H. Flor, B. Futh, D. Gillespie, L. Littlefield, S. McFeely, K. Whitmore, MB Witt

**Absent:** R. Bent

**Also present:** C. and R. Thompson, V. Dulack

Bishop Whitmore opened the meeting with a prayer for the family of St. John's. Copies of this prayer were distributed.

**Bishop's Report:**

As part of his preparation for his departure, Bishop Whitmore stated that he has organized a group of parishioners to conduct morning prayer.

**Wardens' Report:**

Mr. Gillespie reported on various contacts he has made in an effort to secure supply priests following the departure of Bishop Whitmore.

**Stewardship:**

Ms. Witt reported that she will attend a stewardship workshop in Meriden on September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Building and Grounds:**

There was a discussion of steps that will need to be taken if a decision is made to rent the cottage, including the following:

1. The standing committee requires a full appraisal of the property. Thus far, we have an appraisal indicating that the fair rental value of the cottage is \$1350 per month, which is considerably more than the proposed rental of \$850 per month.
2. The Standing Committee requires a narrative history of the original acquisition and historical the use of the cottage, and an explanation as to how the proposed rental will further the mission of the parish.
3. The procedures require approval of the rental by a parish meeting, which may be called by the vestry.

Mr. Dubow mentioned that Ginny and Bob Reynolds offered to contribute the services of their gardeners to clean up and groom the parish campus. He also said that they may underwrite repainting of all or part of the church building.

**Old Business:**

There was a discussion about adopting a Policies and Procedures Manual, which will be reviewed by the Finance Committee.

**New Business:**

- a. Larry Littlefield was appointed Treasurer *Pro Tem*.
- b. A Finance Committee was appointed consisting of Tom Hollinger, Hunter Brown (Assistant Treasurer), and Larry Littlefield (Treasurer).

- c. There was a discussion about exploring how other parishes in the area have managed transitions. Ms. Flor volunteered to contact the parish in Roxbury. Mr. Hollinger has agreed to contact St. John's in New Milford.
- d. Bishop Whitmore said that he had asked Sally Futh to be in charge of scheduling morning prayer. This will be coordinated with Mr. Gillespie, who is recruiting supply priests. All of this will need to be coordinated with Ms. Eyre, Ms. Thompson (Altar Guild), Ms. Mullee and Mr. Lafleur, and the preparation of the Sunday bulletins and e-blasts.

**Minutes:**

The Minutes of the July 14, 2019, meeting were accepted.

**Financial Report:**

The Financial reports were distributed. Mr. Brown mentioned that he had paid the Diocesan Assessments for March, April, and May.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan M. Beattie, Clerk of the Vestry