

**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
**Minutes of the Vestry Meeting**  
**December 17, 2023**  
**Held In-Person**

**In Attendance:** Fr. Hahneman, Ms. Davis, Mr. Kalnins, Ms. Coles, Mr. Del Nin, Ms. Bent, Mr. Bracken, Ms. Dulack, Ms. McFeely, Mr. Gillespie

**Absent/Excused:** Ms. Daly, Mr. Claro, Mr. Bauer

**Opening Prayer**

Fr. Hahneman opened the meeting with a prayer.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the previous vestry meeting were approved, as corrected.

**Treasurer's Report**

Mr. Gillespie reported that 2023 pledge receipts are approaching the budgeted amount, and that pledges received to date were approaching the amount budgeted for 2023. He noted that the rectory rental should have a beneficial effect on 2024 finances, although the rectory is now going on the tax rolls of the Town of Washington and the amount of tax to be assessed is not yet known. He also noted that the tentative reports on the fete suggest that the net income generated should exceed the budgeted amount. Fr. Hahneman noted that the diocesan tax assessment for 2024 should decline by \$12,000.

**Property Report**

Ms. McFeely noted that replacement windows for the rectory have arrived, and that she is in the process of interviewing installers. She also noted that Rod Pleasants has agreed to investigate potential solutions for the decaying masonry work on the exterior door surrounds of the church.

**Fete Report**

Ms. McFeely reported that the fete was a great success and created many positive effects for the parish. She anticipated that the gross receipts from the fete should be in the range of \$60,000 -\$70,000, prior to expenses and a \$10,000 contribution to the Washington Scholarship Fund. Everyone offered kudos to the fete committee and all who helped make the event a success.

**Warden's Report**

Ms. Davis would like to schedule more discussions about the future of the parish, with the next meeting to occur, preferably, before Easter. She mentioned the possibility of organizing a summer choir, in response to comments made in the last parish meeting and conversations with Fr. Hahneman. She announced that she is hosting a vestry chili dinner on February 19, having acquired the chili dinner donated by Ms. Daly to the fete.

**Priest's Report**

Fr. Hahneman requested that the vestry approve creation of a finance committee to address, among other matters, a proposed budget for 2024. The request was approved, unanimously. He noted continuing discussions about use of parish property by other tax-exempts, including the possibility of use as affordable housing or use by the Gunnery. He has scheduled a meeting with the Rector of St. Andrews, Marbledale,

about future cooperation, and he is attempting to enter into a conversation with Christ Episcopal Church in Roxbury. In accordance with the parish's bylaws, he noted that the parish's annual meeting and a potluck lunch is scheduled for January, 28, 2024, following the 10:00 AM mass. Fr. Hahneman closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted, David Gillespie