

St. John's Episcopal Church

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting of January 18, 2026

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

Absent: Ms. Witt, Ms. Daly, Ms. Dulack, Ms. Saxe

Also in attendance: Ms. Weigel, Ms. Gillespie

Opening Prayer

Fr. Hahneman opened the meeting with a prayer.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the previous vestry meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Gillespie discussed the year-end financials for 2025 and the relatively strong financial performance for 2025.

The previously circulated proposed budget for 2026 was discussed. Mr. Gillespie noted that the proposed budget is in balance due to endowment withdrawals of approximately 10%, which is well in excess of the target withdrawal rate of 5%. He noted that potential ways to reduce this level of endowment withdrawal include increasing the amount of pledges and having a capital campaign to raise funds for the much-needed restoration project. For example, the proposed budget includes a loan to the St. John's Foundation for \$100,000 to use in connection with the restoration project. To the extent the parish can raise additional funds for that project, the need for this loan could be avoided, along with the corresponding endowment withdrawal. There was discussion of various items, including the fact that provision has been made in the budget for property taxes assessed on the rectory and potentially on the parish house. Ms. Bent noted, and all agreed, that it seems inappropriate for the Town to be seeking these taxes.

The proposed budget for 2026 was approved as proposed.

Fete Committee Report

Ms. McFeely reported that gross revenue from the 2025 fete may exceed \$77,000. This amount includes payments to be received for the silent auction dinners, which total about \$10,000. Fr. Hahneman will present a check to the Washington Warren Food Bank for \$10,000 of the proceeds realized by the Fete. Ms. McFeely noted that labor expenses in connection with furniture moving and setup totaled about \$10,000, and that she is hopeful that any future events can be organized in a manner that avoids some of this labor cost, including the elimination of the sale of large furniture. There was discussion about possible approaches to future events.

Nominating Committee Report

Ms. Gillespie presented a report from the Nominating Committee, which committee includes Virginia Reynolds and Susie Markert. She noted that the Committee has been very busy in pursuing potential nominees for the

open slots on the vestry. The discussions remain ongoing. The vestry received the report with thanks for the work of the committee.

Special and Annual Parish Meetings—Rector’s and Warden’s Report

Fr. Hahneman and Ms. Davis discussed the contemplated format for the special and annual parish meetings, scheduled for Sunday, February 1, 2026. As discussed, the subject of the special meeting, to be held immediately prior to the annual meeting, is an amendment to the parish’s by-laws, to give the vestry some flexibility in setting the date for the annual meeting of the parish, rather than being constrained by the fixed date currently specified in the by-laws. This flexibility is needed due to numerous factors that may make a fixed date impractical. The annual meeting will include approval of the parish roll and voting on officers, vestry members and parish delegates. The meeting will be followed by lunch and discussion groups. Fr. Hahneman noted a topic for discussion should include future plans in light of his eventual retirement.

Restoration Project Report

Mr. Bracken discussed the successful completion of the restoration project for the church tower, and the fact that the project was completed under budget. He also described the next phase of the project, which includes restoration of the cast stone surrounding the portico. The next phase may begin work as soon as February.

Closing Prayer

Fr. Hahneman closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

David Gillespie