

St. Anne's Parish
Vestry Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Clergy and Vestry Members Present

Rev. Amy Richter
Rev. Joe Pagano
Linda Adamson
Patrick Carlson
Carrie Dana-Evans
Ginger DeLuca
Katherine Hilton
Cary Lukens
Bill Malicki
Doug McNitt
Pat Poffel
Cardie Templeton
Tripp Trippitelli

Vestry and Executive Officers Not Present

Josiah Dykstra
Mark Grimes
Monica Barry
Mickey Thaxton

Non-Vestry and Others Present

Thea Chimento, Clerk
Steve Fisher, Treasurer

➤ *Opening/ Welcoming of Guests*

Amy opened the meeting at 19.01 with a prayer.

➤ *Rector's Report*

Amy announced that she and Joe will be leaving St. Anne's to pursue a call to mission in Africa. They will probably be based in South Africa, and will be sent to serve in other Anglican provinces in Africa as well. She and Joe will teach in seminary there, as clergy with PhDs in theological subjects are urgently needed for the Church in Africa. The call is to serve for three years. Other details are being developed.

Amy and Joe's last Sunday at St. Anne's will be the last Sunday in January 2018; St. Anne's will be able to begin its annual meeting on the first Sunday in February as a new chapter in the life of the parish. Amy and Joe will depart for Africa in the spring.

Amy will send a letter and email announcement to the congregation on Wednesday; she shared a letter with the Vestry that Josiah Dykstra wrote as Senior Warden to the parish which will accompany the letter.

Cardie expressed excitement for Amy and Joe; the Executive Committee has talked to Stuart Wright concerning the transition, and is looking forward to process with the rest of the Vestry. Transparency and good communication will continue to be important. She reflected that St. Anne's has raised up many people for ministry; it's exciting to be a calling congregation and it's exciting to see how its effects ripple out. She expressed thanks for a wonderful experience for Amy and Joe, and hope for a great future path for St. Anne's.

Questions:

- Will there be an effect on remaining pledges for the year? We hope there will be no effect; continued

pledging is important for St. Anne's ministries and stewardship should be a response to God, rather than matching to particular leaders of a church.

- When will the search for replacement clergy begin? St. Anne's will follow a two-step process: St. Anne's will first call an interim, and then new rector. Conversations have begun with Stuart Wright for experienced clergy who would be a good match for St. Anne's. The interim's responsibility is to guide the parish through the search process. The normal length of time for the interim period is one year.
- Will we also search for another clergy member? One thing that is worth some discussion is considering various models of clergy staffing (e.g. interim assistant, supply clergy) to help St. Anne's through the search period while we search for a new associate rector.
- Is there anybody that Amy and Joe would recommend? Clergy serving at the parish cannot have input in the search process. They said they will be as helpful as they can appropriately be during their remaining time here.

Doug noted that Amy and Joe are modeling a trust in the Lord which will persist past words. St. Anne's has been lucky to have them serving as clergy here.

Linda suggested that rather than a service of leave-taking, St. Anne's do a commissioning service for Amy and Joe.

➤ *Financial Stewardship Update*

Cary provided an update on stewardship. Josiah did a lot of work on one-click pledging, which has had a measurable effect. We are at 153 pledges towards a goal of 375; only had 98 last year. 135 pledgers responded to 1-click pledging. So far, we have collected \$411,699, which is huge improvement over last year.

We challenged members to increase their pledge by \$325 in honor of St. Anne's anniversary; 13 pledges did so. 22 pledgers increased their pledges by 5%; 12 increased their pledges by 10%; 24 increased their pledges by another amount.

Amy noted that she is including a link to the narrative budget in her thank-you emails. We are getting positive responses from folks who have read it.

Cary note that we've been doing the same methods for a number of years; it's refreshing to see results from this change.

Cardie recommended sending out the online pledging again to parishioners who have email addresses, but have not yet pledged.

➤ *Nominating Committee*

Amy nominated Patrick Carlson, Ginger DeLuca, Cary Lukens, Betty Creighton, and Phyllis Everette to serve on the Nominating Committee. Linda Adamson seconded Amy's nomination. The motion carried by voice.

Amy noted that Katherine Hilton has offered to share information with the Nominating Committee to assist them in their search. Joe noted that it is the Vestry's canonical responsibility to call a new rector, so that is a factor to consider when making the nominations.

➤ *Treasurer's Report*

Steve distributed the Treasurer's report prior to the meeting. There were no questions.

Church

- Giving for September was favorable to budget by \$11,715 but remains slightly behind budget YTD (99.3%). Pledge continues to be behind budget, partially offset by non-pledge.
- Other Income is favorable \$2,769 YTD as Funerals are favorable. 325th Anniversary Revenue is \$3,271. We need another \$1,800 to break even. We have 87 books in inventory.

- Total Revenue is essentially on plan.
- Expenses are \$32,872 favorable in several categories, led by ministry expenses.
- Net Income is \$29,920 favorable to budget after 9 months.

Cemetery

- The cemetery is \$3,044 favorable to budget through three quarters.
- Cemetery fees are responsible for the favorable position.

PASA

- PASA is in month two of the fiscal year and is \$7K favorable on the strength of unbudgeted summer camps.
- A September tuition shortfall of \$3,039 is of some concern; additional analysis is underway.

Endowment

- The quarterly distribution was posted in September.
- Investment results were excellent on the strength of quarterly bond interest and good gains on equities.
- The Endowment Balance on 9/30 was \$4,733,592.
- Meeting with Investment Committee on the 17th.

Cell site: We have exchanged two contracts with AT&T and they are conducting assessments of the tower. We will be meeting with the Historic Properties Commission on October 22nd. HPC will need to approve us replacing wooden slats in the bell tower shutters with a synthetic material. Historically, HPC has not allowed that, but we have been encouraged to go to a pre-application meeting. Since the process is reversible, they may let us do it. We may also suggest a “sunset period” for permission. No progress on price; we will continue to negotiate.

➤ *Budget Process for 2018*

Steve has sent out a revised budget process, which is similar to what we have used for the past few years. Due date for ministries is November 15th.

January 9th is when we will have our budget meeting for the Vestry.

➤ *Ramp Repair*

Cardie distributed her report prior to the meeting. There were questions about the replacement of the ramp in the Charles Street Lot:

We recently repaired the ramp in the Charles Street Lot. The repair was needed quickly; we were in process for commissioning a repair but were forestalled by necessity. \$4,910 was the cost which included re-decking, new pickets, repaired understructure.

Questions:

- Is there a need for a new understructure? Not at this time. The repair has ensured that we have at least one more year of use, but we may need to replace it in 1-3 years. Total replacement would have required HPC approval, for which we did not have time.

Linda Adamson moved to retroactively approve \$4,910 from the Facilities Budget to repair the Charles Street Lot ramp; Tripp Trippitelli seconded, and the motion was carried by voice.

➤ *Announcements/Approval of Minutes/Open Floor/Closing*

Saturday at 11.00-12.30 is our gathering with St. Philip's Vestry. Thanks to Pat Poffel, who has volunteered to help Sandi Criscimagna with set-up.

The AA group has expressed gratitude to Vestry for decades of support by giving them the meeting space.

Carrie moved to waive the reading of the September minutes and approve them as submitted; Bill Malicki seconded, and the motion carried by voice.

Carrie led all present in prayer, and the meeting adjourned at 20.32.

Respectfully submitted,
Thea Chimento
Clerk