



Minutes of the Vestry Meeting
Monday, March 18, 2019
6:30 p.m.

Present:

Clergy: The Rev. Michele Morgan, Rector

Wardens: Nora Howell, Senior Warden; Kenn Allen, Junior Warden

Vestry Members: Jim Brooks, Tracy Councill, Thia Hamilton, Christina Herman, Brandon Dunn Knight, Beth Mahood, Amber Macdonald

Officers: John Edwards, Assistant Treasurer; Mary Anderson Cooper, Register

Absent: The Rev. Scott Lipscomb, Assistant Rector; Vestry Members Stephanie Deutsch and Alix Pereira; Rosemary Harold, Counsel

Visitors: Michelle Strange

The Rector presided at the meeting and offered the opening prayer.

Members and officers gave updates on their current situations. The Rector reported that parishioner Bill Jones died the morning of the meeting and that Arnold Taylor's health was declining rapidly.

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING

Kenn Allen moved, Christina Herman seconding and the Vestry concurring unanimously that the minutes of the February meeting be **APPROVED.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

Assistant Treasurer John Edwards reported that the Treasurer's Report for January, distributed electronically prior to the meeting, contained no significant issues. He noted that plate offerings are running ahead of projections. The books for 2018 are being readied for audit and members are being sought for the Finance Committee. A new Assistant Treasurer is also needed, given John's upcoming elevation to Treasurer.

Jim Brooks inquired whether it was likely that a new auditor would be sought and whether other auditors cost a similar amount. John responded that the current auditor has been very good and that the cost is comparable to others. The Rector suggested that this discussion be revisited in six months. Kenn Allen pointed out the importance of having an auditor who knows churches and the peculiarities of their accounting needs.

Kenn moved, seconded by Thia Hamilton and the Vestry concurring unanimously that the Treasurer's report be **APPROVED.**

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Kenn Allen reported that the new sound system is being installed under Charlie Rupp's supervision and expressed gratitude for Charlie's willingness to take on this task, thereby saving the church considerable funds. Street-level work has already begun to prepare for repointing and the Tiffany window has been covered to protect it from damage as work proceeds. The higher scaffolding is going up for the tower repairs and work will begin in two to three weeks once the scaffolding is complete all the way to the top of the tower. The installation of the new HVAC system will begin in a week and should take three weeks to complete.

Kenn reported that since the last Vestry meeting, where he was authorized to seek \$28,000 from the Building Preservation Fund, he had learned that \$48,973 was available for expenditure. Consequently, he requested that the Vestry modify its approval to increase the request to \$38,000 to support the exterior restoration work.

Thia Hamilton moved, seconded by Jim Brooks and the Vestry concurring unanimously that the amended request to the Building Preservation Fund be **APPROVED.**

Jim Brooks asked if there is insurance on the quality of the work being performed on the exterior. Kenn responded that there is no specific policy on this job but that the church has a massive amount of other insurance.

THE RECTOR'S REPORT

The Rector reported that the date for the Vestry retreat is still being negotiated, although May 4 seems a likely date at this point.

She will be away from April 24-30 and also for nine days at the end of May and in early June.

She reported that the special offering in response to the tragedy in New Zealand had yielded nearly \$1,800. Several Vestry members added to that amount on the spot.

Plans for the Annual Parish Meeting March 24 are on track and the agenda is being polished.

LIAISON REPORTS

Membership: Amber Macdonald reported that a Parent Party is planned to introduce Caleb Nelson Amaker, the Interim Director of Youth and Family Ministries, to parents with children he will work with.

She noted the need for a new co-chair of Membership since Ryan Baugh is about to become Senior Warden. The Rector volunteered Mary Cooper for the job and she accepted.

Communications: Thia Hamilton requested that a Vestry member be designated to relate to Communications, given that her term is ending.

Parish Life: Kenn Allen reported that responsibility for hospitality, in the form of coffee hour and Sunday lunch, has been moved to Parish Life from the Junior Warden's portfolio. He and Maureen Shea will coordinate this activity through the summer, while new leadership is identified.

Christina Herman reported that a pot-luck supper for the Middle Agers Group has been planned for the evening of April 13 at the home of Rita and Matt Ossolinski (3905 Jenifer Street, NW, Washington DC). The event is co-hosted by Leslie Allen and Doug Ammon.

Claggett Retreat: The annual parish retreat will be held at Claggett June 8-9.

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Nora Howell reported that the Canvass has reached 95% of its goal but is still \$45,000 short.

The Extended Vision Campaign has \$1.43 million in pledges and income received from 125 people and organizations. A Town Hall is planned to update the parish on the restoration and the Extended Vision Campaign, with April 28 as the tentative date.

Because the tower work has to be paid for when it is finished and Extended Vision funds are coming in over a longer period, there will be a shortfall of funds in approximately July, meaning that the parish will need to secure a line of credit for no more than \$500,000.

Brandon Dunn Knight moved, Christina Herman seconding:

that Nora Howell and a designee from the Finance Committee be authorized to seek a short-term line of credit for up to \$500,000 to run from June 2019 through December 2021, with the objective of paying it off as soon as possible as Extended Vision funds are received from pledgers and donors.

The motion was unanimously

APPROVED.

There was a discussion of the transition to new leadership while the tower restoration project continues and the line of credit is secured. This also impacts the presentations at the Extended Vision Town Hall. Kenn Allen reported that he is helping the incoming Junior Warden, Jim Pittman, with overseeing the tower repairs as liaison with AEON and with the neighbors.

Nora Howell will handle the business management of the line of credit as a part of Finance plus the Extended vision Town Halls in support of Rob Hall and Jackie Boddie. The Vestry should be clear that Kenn and Nora's efforts have clear end points this year and should not be considered to be anything but support roles to the new leadership.

The Senior Warden expressed her appreciation to the Vestry for their support during her tenure as Senior Warden.

The closing prayer was offered by Tracy Council.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anderson Cooper, Register