

# St. Andrew's Vestry Minutes

September 20, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Martha Lovejoy, Senior Warden.

Present: Martha Lovejoy, Paul Carey, Junior Warden, Bert Cooper, Treasurer, Judy McPhail, Pete Mitchell, Vickie Haines, Clarke Kidder, Rob Thomson, Larry Rice, Rev. Reed Loy, and Pam Manus, Clerk.

Unable to attend: Pat Walker and Chris Miller.

Judy McPhail opened the meeting with a beautiful prayer, "A Collect for Club Women", written in 1941.

**Clerk's Report:** Vestry minutes, electronically approved, are posted on the website in a timely manner. We should advertise this so that our congregation is aware and just doesn't "happen" upon it. This will be done in the Blast and during announcements. The Concord Monitor advertisement has had the times for services corrected. The letter and copy of the resolution regarding the change of names on our bank accounts has been given to the bank and signatures obtained. This should all be completed by the end of this week.

**Treasurer's Report:** Handouts with updated Expenditures and Income were handed out. Bert explained the Income with Endowments and interest, and went over the expenditures. We are well balanced this year, with our expenses down and income steady. Pledges are as expected. Loose plate contributions are divided in half for 3 Sundays,

with 1/2 going to designated charities and 1/2 going to general fund. The 4th Sunday goes to the Rectors discretionary fund. Individual committee budgets were discussed. The parish assistant will be sending out the quarterly pledge notices. This has been a helpful reminder for our congregation . Our rectors have had in the past the use of a credit card with a set limit. Also we would like our rector to be able to use a debit card for the Discretionary Fund. Bert made the motion, seconded by Judy, to accept the resolutions as follows:

Resolved: That the Rector be, and hereby is, authorized to obtain and use a Debit Card, to access the Rector's Discretionary fund bank account at TD Bank for all customary and usual purposes of such account; and

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Resolved: That the Rector be, and hereby is, authorized to obtain and use a credit card, with a credit limit of \$2,500.00, to be used for usual and customary church purposes in his discretion and as broadly authorized by the Vestry; and

Resolved: That the Wardens, Treasurer, and or Clerk are hereby authorized to certify to the bank(s) the foregoing resolution and to execute such bank(s) agreements on behalf of the Vestry to carry out such Resolutions.

After a brief discussion re: continuing with the same credit card company, this resolution passed unanimously .

Reed and Martha will check to make sure the name of the credit card company is listed in our Quickbooks program.

We are in possession of a signed photograph of Governor John Winant. This was donated years ago by Margret and Joseph Ransmeier . Dick Hesse located it stored in the church; and since then has kept it secure at his residence. He contacted Bob Wells with a request that St. Andrew's decide how and where this photo be preserved. Bob Wells has suggested a few avenues we could take. After discussion about donating vs displaying the photo, Martha made the following motion that:

St. Andrew's deaccession the signed photo of Governor Winant and that declining to continue to steward this photo, we donate it to the Hopkinton Historical Society.

This motion was seconded by Rob and discussion followed.

Points brought up were:

If we retain possession, where would it be displayed? Many of us have not seen this photo.

We don't know the historical value of this photo

We don't know the monetary value of this photo.

After much discussion, Clarke moved to table the motion, Pete seconded this and the motion carried. Clarke offered to look into the above points, see about getting the photo inspected and valued, then check with the Hopkinton Historical Society and the New Hampshire State Historical Society as to their policies and whether they would deem this photo significant. When we have this information we will make the decision.

We will send notes of thanks to both Dick Hesse for his stewardship of this photo, and Bob Wells for his attention and suggestions.

## **Building and Grounds Report:**

- Fall clean up will be November 12th after 10:00 a.m. service.
- Cleaning out of the basement will be November 4th. This may very well help with the musty smell downstairs. We might be able to dehumidify the area also.
- 6 cane chairs were repaired by the NH Prison Population at a very reduced cost.
- The Memorial Garden Group discussed the grill work that is decaying

along the walls of the garden. Clarke Kidder has offered to repair, rebuild and/or replace the railings that are in need. Sunday, October 1, will be the day that the grill work will be removed and dried so that the restoration can begin.

- The placing of windows in interior doors within the church has begun. A and B Lumber is doing this. In following Safe Church guidelines, the door to the rector's office is being worked on. There are a number of doors that could be deemed candidates for this overhaul. Martha moved that in addition to the already agreed to Rector's door, we have the Library and Sacristy doors redone with windows appropriate for their size and thickness to be in compliance with the Safe Church guidelines. Clarke seconded this and it was passed unanimously.

**Rector's Report:** Reed asked for input into the decision for the Rector to have access to and knowledge of the Stewardship pledges. The pros and cons were discussed in depth. Reed feels up to the task, balancing trust and confidentiality. He believes that gifts to the church come in many forms: time, prayers, work in our community, money and

support of St. Andrew's plans, visions and efforts. He sees this as an opportunity to have discussions about a person's personal gifts to support God's people. Vestry feels comfortable with this and supports Reed's position.

**Dates of note:**

Sunday Oct 8th - Blessing of the Animals. We will process from Harold Martin School to the front of St. Andrew's. The whole congregation will be invited to walk. We need to publicize this to our community, inviting all to bring animals or pictures of their animals. We will ask two people to head this up.

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Tuesday Oct 31st - Halloween Trick or Treating Open House. This was a great hit last year and there is energy for this to be done again. We are part of this community and we feel that there is a need in this physical area and also an opportunity to support our community. Melissa Trafton has offered to help this project.

Sunday Nov 5th - When we celebrate All Saints Day this year we will celebrate Newcomers to our congregation.

Wednesday Nov 29th- **Celebration of New Ministry**- the Bishop will be here to celebrate Reed with us.

Staff relationships are going well.

**Old Business:** Judy has cleaned out the cupboards in the youth room. She has found many articles, games, books etc that could be used in Youth Ministry. She will put them in the office that is near the

classrooms where other youth ministry items are now being stored in preparation of being sorted.

Rob directed us to the web page of the Diocese for the three resolutions being proposed for the Convention on November.

### **New Business:**

Reed reported that Rev. John McCausland continues to be a wonderful resource. Reed meets with Rev. Jay MacLeod and John regularly and finds them supportive and informative.

Rev. John McCausland has generously gifted St. Andrews with his collection of Chasubles. There are 7 beautiful vestments and we have happily accepted this gift. They will be put to good use. rector's. John will be able to access them for use any time he would like. We are once again blessed by this man.

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Pam asked that the addition of a outdoor light be placed at the foot of our driveway. It is a dark area not lit up by any town/road lights and it is hard to decide when and where to turn into the driveway at night. The Building and Grounds committee will look into cost and available lights.

Clarke reports that many have asked if we are doing St. Nicholas cookies again this year. It was a wonderful success last year and would be a great community building event for us again. There are many who would like to do this. The Vestry gave a unanimous "thumbs up" to support this project. Liz Carey will be approached and asked to head this up.

Pete opened a discussion around Committees within the parish. There are some committees that are almost “stand alone”, while others exist but don’t have many members, others are known to only a few etc. Reed has been meeting with parishioners and has heard many stories. After some discussion it was agreed that at the next meeting we will address the committee structure within St. Andrews and how the committees are serving our vision as a Christian community. We need transparency. Our community should be able to see committees, know what they do, and have a way to offer to join them.

Next Executive Vestry Meeting will be Oct 11th at 5 p.m. The next Vestry Meeting will be Oct 18th at 7 p.m.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m. followed by prayer.

Respectfully submitted:

Pamela Manus, Clerk