

ST. MATTHEWS CHURCH, JAMESTOWN

VESTRY MINUTES

April 29, 2014

In attendance: Father Kevin Lloyd, Ron Black - Sr. Warden, Bob Bauer – Jr. Warden, John Flinton - Treasurer, Peter Elsworth - Clerk, Jason Black, Laura Clark, Tracy Correll, Sally Schott, Amy Smith and John Williamson.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the March 19 meeting were approved with the amendments that the Diocesan Convention is in November and that St. Matthews' congregation numbers about 375.

RECTOR'S REPORT – Fr. Kevin Lloyd

Father Kevin reported that Holy Week and Easter had gone well with attendance up for the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday services. He also noted 50 people attending the Maundy Thursday service, which was “a good turnout.”

There was some discussion of splitting the Easter Sunday service to avoid crowding at 10 am, but Fr. Kevin noted a different mood to each service which he appreciated – the 8 am service being contemplative followed by the “full, glorious” 10 am service.

Fr. Kevin said he had enjoyed the Lenten Study program with 10-15 attendees most Tuesdays over five weeks, citing the thought-provoking material and good conversations.

He noted Jackie Kirby's ordination on June 21st at 4pm in Grace Church in Providence and there was some discussion about rounding up a crew and contributions for the reception following.

Fr. Kevin said Bishop Knisely was asking all Vestry members to take the Safe Church Training Course online. He said it did not take long and he would monitor the progress.

He noted the Summer Fair on July 19 with Gale Bay the chair. There was some discussion about the donation of a large quantity of fabrics by Charlene Gamble.

Regarding the Vestry Retreat, he said May 10 was not available and the possibility of May 24 compromised by the Memorial Day weekend.

Fr. Kevin said with St. Matthews being pastoral sized, there was not need for subcommittees but gave out an assignment list for each member of the Vestry:

Ron Black, Sr. Warden – Administration and Finance
Bob Bauer, Jr. Warden – Building and Grounds

John Flinton, Treasurer – Finance/Investments
Peter Elsworth, Clerk – Vestry minutes
Jason Black – Parish Communications
Laura Clarke – Thrift Shop
Tracy Correll – Sunday School
Sally Schott – Summer Fair
Amy Smith – Parish Hospitality
John Williamson – Meal Site/Jonnycake Center

He said each Vestry member would thus have a focus to be the eyes and ears of the Vestry, and report back with significant developments. He said he expected the system to take a while to catch on and was aware that the Vestry is all volunteer. But he said he had to step back from such managerial assignments to better focus on the spiritual life of the parish: “I need your help,” he said.

Fr. Kevin also noted the memorial service for Peter Hoagland was Saturday, June 7.

He also said the Diocesan Convention was Nov. 7-8 at St. Mary’s in Portsmouth and that in the past the wardens have attended. Laura Clarke and Amy Smith volunteered to go this year, with Peter Elsworth named the alternate.

SENIOR WARDEN’S REPORT – Ron Black

Ron reported that he worked with Susan McIntyre and Bob Horan on minor issues relating to office procedures and parish maintenance.

JUNIOR WARDEN’S REPORT – Bob Bauer

Bob reported repairs to exterior lights, the replacement of bulbs inside the church, and a sump pump and stand-by generator to be installed at the rectory.

TREASURER’S REPORT – John Flinton

The balance sheet and budget were reviewed.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the financials as presented.

John reported a modest \$600 in the checking account and said he would rectify that situation.

He said \$145,575 of the pledged \$225,000 for the capital campaign had been received. He noted various sums that still have to be paid back from loans taken to undertake work already done.

He said the endowment stood at \$656,000 at the end of 2013 and as of today stood at \$647,000 including \$30,000 taken out. He attributed the favorable balance to the strengthening stock market.

He said the balance still stood at 60 percent equity and 40 percent fixed income.

He said pledges were in line with expectations, noting an acceleration in pledge income, hopes for healthy income from the summer sale and sales from then thrift store ramping up. He noted recent thrift store income of \$800 for Saturday and Tuesday and \$150 from a recent Thursday evening.

There was some discussion about electronic pledging, which tends to even out pledge income. It was reported that five parishioners had signed up.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was discussion about the church having a presence at the Rotary community picnic scheduled for Sunday, May 24.

There was also discussion about, and a vote to add, the North Kingstown food pantry as a recipient of food in addition to the Jonnycake Center in Wakefield.

Finally, there was discussion of how to honor the memory of Peter Hoagland at the thrift store and agreement on a substantial plaque or framed photograph with text. Ron and Jason said they would look into it.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m. The next Vestry meeting will take place at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 20.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Elsworth, Clerk