

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting

Tuesday, April 21, 6 p.m.
Farmer Hall

Vestry Members in Attendance: Gary Naegel, John Armstrong, Steve Domienik, Lucinda Embersits, Kristen Garnett, Cathy Golden, Amanda Hayward, Rebecca Rastetter, Louise Beecher, Alan Miller, Art Criddle, Colleen McHugh, Cathy Golden, Mark Auletta

Guests: Barbara Casey, Grant Underwood and Mary Merkle-Scotland

1. Opening Prayer

2. Barbara Casey

The meeting started an hour earlier than usual to accommodate Barbara Casey, diocesan priest-in-charge consultant, who met with the vestry to discuss Transition Team formation and had a second meeting scheduled later in the evening.

Mrs. Casey went over the guidelines for the transition process, and threw them open for comment. She emphasized that the transition work moves quickly and that the team members must be able to meet weekly and work as a team. Canon Tim Hodapp, who is in charge of transition ministry for the diocese, will appear at a parish meeting before the 10:15 service on May 3 to discuss the process with parishioners.

Mrs. Casey explained that although Canon Hodapp will do an initial vetting of potential candidates for the parish's new priest, the final decision will be up to the vestry. Note: Mrs. Casey is stepping down from her role as Transition Team consultant for St. Andrew's due to another commitment. A new consultant will be appointed by the diocese.

3. Church School Schedule

This item was moved forward in the agenda to accommodate Grant Underwood, the church's music director, and Mary Merkle-Scotland, the acting chairman of the church school.

The item under discussion involved changing the church school schedule next fall because currently children who sing in the choir must miss most of their Sunday School lesson. Sunday school runs from 9:30 to 10:10 a.m., but choir rehearsal for the 10:15 service starts at 9:45 a.m.

Father Steve noted that St. Andrew's is unusual in that it has two distinct services – one traditional (the 8:30 a.m.) and one contemporary (the 10:15 a.m.).

Some of the alternatives considered to resolve the choir's conflict with the church school were:

- Move the traditional service to 8 a.m. and make it a quiet service without a choir. The choir would rehearse at 8:45 a.m.
- Make the second service start at 9:30 a.m and be a "blended" service with traditional and contemporary hymns. Church school students would leave before the final hymn and church school itself would run from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m.

It was agreed that these ideas would be talked about with members of the congregation for feedback and that the question of scheduling would be revisited by the Vestry in May.

4. Approval of minutes

The vestry approved the minutes of its March meeting. Mark Auletta made the motion and Rebecca Rastetter seconded

5. Approval of Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report for the month of March as prepared by Cathy Golden was accepted. Art Criddle made the motion and Gary Naegel seconded.

6. Old Business

Welcoming parish goal – "Believe Out Loud" process

The vestry decided not to pursue the "Believe Out Loud" curriculum. The motion was made by Mark Auletta and seconded by Art Criddle. Instead, the vestry decided that it would review St. Andrew's Mission Statement at a future date to make it more specifically focus on respect for all persons.

7. Transition Team Prospects

Kristen Garnett and Colleen McHugh – who had assumed the responsibility of finding parishioners who would be willing to serve on the Transition Team – reported that they had found 21 people who had expressed willingness to do so. Vestry Warden Gary Naegel explained that the team should have 8 to 10 members, and two of them should be vestry members.

It was agreed that the Vestry would meet at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 30 to create a final list.

8. Adjournment

The move to adjourn was made by Art Criddle, seconded by Gary Naegel and passed unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Louise Beecher, Vestry Clerk