

## **St. Andrew's Episcopal Church**

### **Vestry Meeting**

April 17, 2018, 7:00p.m.

Farmer Hall

**Vestry Members in Attendance:** Senior Warden Gary Naegel, Junior Warden Gary Cimmino, the Rev. Shariya Molegoda, Laura Downes, Anastasia King, Ray Hencir, John Armstrong, Mark Auletta, Colleen McHugh, Louise Beecher

**Absent:** Jane Kraus, Maeve Merkle-Scotland, Matt Valentine, Mark Tardie, Nancy Karas.

**Opening Prayer and Dwelling in the Word:** Matthew 19:28-30

### **Minutes**

Ray Hencir moved to accept the minutes of the April 2018 meeting as amended. The motion was seconded by Mark Auletta and approved unanimously.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Colleen McHugh said that based on what she had learned at the Episcopal Church of Connecticut's "Spring Training," St. Andrew's should be working toward the goal of adopting a balanced annual budget. The congregation had adopted a budget with a deficit of \$41,000 at its annual meeting.

McHugh said that another goal would be to change the way the budget is put together to create more clarity about the way the church and the pre-school interact. The pre-school – which is operated as a mission of the church – already contributes to the cost of utilities. However, the Rev. Shariya Molegoda said that exactly how much the school contributes to the overall utility costs has not been determined. John Armstrong also suggested that the church should look into how the pre-school's tuition compares to that charged by similar pre-schools in the area.

McHugh also said that the Stop & Shop gift card program needs a tracking system. The cards, which are sold after services, return percentage of purchases to the church.

### **Gift to Endowment**

The vestry voted to commit a \$5,000 gift from the estate of late parishioner E. Bosworth Grier, Jr. to the Endowment Fund. The motion was made by Anastasia King and seconded by Gary Cimmino.

### **Outreach – H.O.M.E.**

The vestry approved a \$2,000 transfer from the Outreach Budget line to support this year's H.O.M.E. trip by the church's youth. H.O.M.E. (Homeworkers Organized for More Employment) is a nonprofit organization founded in 1970 dedicated to keeping and enhancing the quality of life for low-income and homeless families. Each year young people from St. Andrew's join others from the area in a volunteer service trip to the H.O.M.E. community in Orland, Maine. The motion was made by Anastasia King and seconded by Ray Hencir.

### **Confirmation**

The vestry voted to spend \$150 to purchase Bibles as gifts to the members of this year's confirmation class. The confirmation will take place May 5 in Niantic. The motion was made by Mark Auletta and seconded by Ray Hencir.

### **Spring Training**

Vestry members who attended the Episcopal Church in Connecticut's "Spring Training & Gathering" April 7 in Meriden reported positive experiences. Among those in attendance were Treasurer Colleen McHugh, Gary and Brenda Naegel, Tom Stott, Laura Downes, John Armstrong and Music Director Grant Underwood.

### **Human Resources**

Senior Warden Gary Naegel said that a Human Resources Committee had been formed to redefine the jobs held by church staff. St. Andrew's now employs a part-time bookkeeper, which necessitates the redefinition of the roles of both the treasurer and the church administrator. The committee currently consists of Naegel, Treasurer Colleen McHugh, Mark Auletta, and Anastasia King and Laura Downes.

### **Septic**

Buildings and Grounds Chairman Gary Cimmino said he had met with the town health inspector and a representation from Kytte Sanitation to inspect the church's failing septic system. He said a 9-foot test hole had been dug as part of this inspection, which showed that the soil in the front of the church was not suitable for a leach field. He said information is being compiled on how much the church and pre-school are putting into the system.

Cimmino said he would get three estimates on how much it would cost to replace the system.

The Rev. Molegoda pointed out that the window of opportunity for doing this work is a narrow one – it must be sandwiched between the sessions of the church school and the church's summer arts camp.

### **Security**

Ray Hencir, who has been looking into security measures that could be instituted by the church and pre-school, reported that he and Gary Cimmino had attending a security conference in Mystic. He also said that a representative from the Madison Police Department would come to the church the next week to speak to the pre-school staff and the church administrator. The vestry will consider possible security measures at a later meeting.

### **Fallen Tree-Pepin**

Gary Cimmino reported that the tree that leaned dangerously over the fence separating the church property from that of neighbor Jacques Pepin had been removed. He also said that storm damage had caused another tree that shaded the pre-school playground had been cut back, reducing the shade in that area.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m. on a motion by Gary Cimmino that was seconded by Colleen McHugh.