

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

September 18, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

Farmer Hall

Vestry Members in Attendance: The Rev. Shariya Molegoda, Senior Warden Gary Naegel, Junior Warden Gary Cimmino, Treasurer Colleen McHugh-Heflin, Clerk Louise Beecher, Laura Downes, Ray Hencir, Mark Auletta, Matt Valentine, Nancy Karas, Mark Tardie, Louise Beecher, Anastasia King, and Maeve Merkle-Scotland.

Absent: John Armstrong, Jane Krauss.

Call to Care Uganda

Martha Hoffman made a presentation about Call to Care Uganda, a now independent project she started 10 years ago at St. Andrew's. The church originally supported the schooling for four Ugandan orphans through the project. Two have now aged out of the program and are living independently, while a third, 18-year-old Joyce Mary, has only two semesters of schooling left to go. That will leave only one child, 16-year-old Calvin, supported by the church in the next few years.

Minutes

Mark Auletta moved to approve the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Gary Cimmino and was adopted.

Rector's Report

The Rev. Shariya Molegoda reported on the results of the decision to continue with regular schedule of three Sunday services over the summer instead of cutting back to two as had been done in years past. She said that attendance had held steady at the 8:30 a.m. and 11 services, but had dropped steeply at the 9:30 a.m. contemporary worship service.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Colleen McHugh-Heflin reported that the church was currently running a \$41,000 deficit, which is almost \$9,000 more than had been anticipated at this time. She said a small finance committee had been formed with the objectives of producing a realistic 2019 budget.

Meanwhile, she said that:

- the roughly \$15,000 cost of repairing the elevator had been taken out of the Endowment Fund
- the summer camp, which earned a net profit of \$5,340 after expenses, was donating \$4,698 of that amount of the general fund
- efforts to get a better understanding of the pre-school's revenue and expenses were continuing

- the pensions and benefits for pre-school teachers had been brought into compliance with Episcopal Church guidelines
- credit card processing was being moved to Ecommerce Solutions – a partner of the Guilford Savings Bank – to save 30 percent on fees as well as streamline processing
- the annual audit was scheduled for Oct. 1-3

The treasurer's report was accepted on a motion by Louise Beecher that was seconded by Gary Cimmino.

Laptop and Printer for Youth Ministry

The vestry voted to spend up to \$1,500 to purchase a laptop, software and travelling printer on a motion by Gary Naegel that was seconded by Gary Cimmino. The money will be taken from the Youth Ministry Fund.

Ugandan Mission

The vestry voted to move \$7,000 from the Outreach Fund to the Uganda Mission Fund to fulfill the church's commitment made to finance the education of orphans Joyce Mary and Calvin.

Boy Scouts

Mark Auletta and Louise Beecher spoke with adult leaders of Boy Scout Troop 490, which meets at St. Andrew's, about doing a fall clean-up as well as clearing fallen trees and overgrowth along the Serenity Trail.

Rentals

Mark Auletta said that a folder holding St. Andrew's rental policies had been dropped off in the main office. He said that future rentals would appear on the church calendar.

Endowment

Ray Hencir, who serves on the Endowment Committee, said that the church had received compliments from diocesan officials about how well the Endowment Fund was run.

Stewardship

Stewardship Chair Laura Downes distributed the stewardship packets and asked that each member of the vestry turn in his or her pledge by Stewardship Sunday on the 30th. The packets will be handed out to members of the congregation at that service. The vestry will call congregants who have not yet returned their pledge at its October meeting.

Human Resources

Anastasia King reported that substantial progress had been made in shaping the position of parish administrator. The Human Resources Committee has been engaged in a major effort to revise and restructure the job descriptions of the parish's employees.

Buildings and Grounds

Gary Cimmino reported that the church elevator had come back into service Tuesday after \$14,220 in repairs. But he said the phone in the elevator still had issues.

Turning to the troubled septic system, Cimmino said that an engineer needs to come and assess the situation, and then give the vestry some options about how to proceed. The cost of hiring the engineer alone is \$5,000, while the digging associated with creating the assessment is expected to bring the cost to \$6,500.

Solar Power

The vestry voted to move forward with an agreement with Star Power Energy to install solar panels on the church's pitched roof. The motion was made by Gary Naegel and seconded by Gary Cimmino. Although the panels – which will be owned and maintained by the company – will not provide all of the church's energy needs – the 20-year arrangement is expected to save St. Andrew's \$2,700 a year while supporting energy sustainability.

Naegel said he is also looking into installing new light bulbs to reduce energy consumption.

Dancing with the Stars

The vestry voted to contribute \$2,000 to Habitat for Humanity's "Dancing with the Stars" fund-raiser. The motion was made by Laura Downes and seconded by Mark Auletta.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m. on a motion by Laura Downes that was seconded by Mark Tardie.

Minutes submitted by Louise Beecher