

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE VESTRY OF ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH,  
YOUNGSTOWN  
May 11, 2023

Present: The Reverend Gayle Catinella, Jon Caguiat, Elizabeth Cianciola, Joe DeNiro, Lance Grahn, Jonathan Huff, Liz Johnson, Tony Manhollan, and Martie Witt

Absent: Brenda Barry

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 with a prayer led by Martie Witt.

The Rev. Rosalind Hughes gave a presentation to Vestry on gun violence prevention, including an overview of the "Guns to Gardens" project. There are many ways and many opportunities for St. John's to join with other Episcopal parishes and faith communities to support gun violence prevention efforts. The Vestry will explore those options in the coming weeks. After the Vestry and Rev. Gayle thanked Rev. Rosalind for her thoughtful and engaging presentation, Rev. Rosalind left the meeting.

Brenda Barry will send a thank-you note to Rev. Rosalind on behalf of the Vestry.

The minutes of the April 20, 2023, meeting of the Vestry were provided by email for information and review.

Motion to approve: Jon Caguiat

Second: Martie Witt

All in favor.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

In the absence of a Treasurer, Lance Grahn reported the following financial highlights for April 2023,

- Operating Fund balance: \$11,349.98
- Total expenses: \$36,852.56
- Total income: \$32,425.95
- Net operating loss for April: -\$2,383.33
- Current pledges YTD: \$82,906.94 (115.83% of budget based on the April draft budget)
- Contributions non-ledged YTD: \$5,076.55 (80.17% of budget based on the April draft budget)

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Junior Warden – Martie Witt reported that the Properties Commission discussed the catering/restaurant proposal at its May meeting and voiced concerns. Martie also raised concerns about the canonical legality of renting space to a for-profit business.
- Finance – Lance Grahn reported that the Finance Commission at its May meeting
  - Took no action on authorizing expenditures for the Bishop's upcoming visit, nor did it assign budgetary line items to those planned expenditures
  - Remains concerned about the budget deficit

- Has questions and some concerns about the catering/restaurant and wedding hosting proposals as currently understood
- Recommends to Vestry that discussions with the catering business include a proforma document prepared in consultation with our Chancellor that clearly defines responsibilities for all parties. Finance also recommends that written agreements be shared with Finance and Properties as well as with the Vestry.
- Endowment Board/Heritage Society –Jonathan Huff reported that the Endowment Board will meet in July.
- Personnel – Jonathan Huff is currently reviewing staff job descriptions as requested by the Finance Commission.
- Properties – Via Martie Witt. See the Junior Warden report above.
- Senior Warden — Tony Manhollan summarized a letter from a parishioner that he and Martie Witt recently received. The parishioner first expressed dismay at the internal rancor, and especially criticism of Rev. Gayle, that they have recently seen. The writer was similarly dismayed by what they saw as in-fighting over money and urged budgetary patience for a recovery in the stock market. Thirdly, the writer criticized the music at the 10:30 service. Discussion followed.
- Christian Education — No report.
- Christian Social Relations — No report.
- Parish Life and Growth – No report.
- Red Door Café and Pantry — No report.
- Worship and Arts — No report.
- Memorials and Gifts — No report.
- Mission Area — No report.
- DEIA – No report.

### RECTOR'S REPORT

Rev. Gayle's report for May 2023 was sent by email prior to the meeting. It is appended below.

### OLD BUSINESS

Discussion continued about the current revenue-generating proposals that are in place.

The photo directory is in process.

Rev. Gayle reminded the Vestry that Bishop Coadjutor Anne Jolly will visit St. John's on June 18. Bishop Anne's activities that day will include about a dozen confirmations, a welcoming reception, lunch with the Vestry.

### NEW BUSINESS

Joe DeNiro agreed to serve as Treasurer. The Vestry and Rev. Gayle sincerely thanked him for agreeing to assume this responsibility and voted accordingly to formalize Joe's appointment.

Motion to approve: Jon Caguiat                      Second: Jonathan Huff                      All in favor.

Vestry will next meet on June 8, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m. with a closing prayer led by Rev. Gayle.

Minutes approved 13 July 2023

Motion to approve: Lance Grahn                      Second: Joe DeNiro                      All in favor.



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Lance Grahn (Clerk)

## Rector's Report 5.23

Please note that The Rev. Rosalind Hughes is coming as requested to talk about gun violence. We will skip most of the committee reports so the meeting stays a reasonable length. If you have something you want reported, please just say so. Otherwise we will have a financial report and some quick updates. Thank you!

1. The Bishop's visit!!! Please mark your calendars. If you agree, we will have one service at 10:30 (**discuss**). There will be a Beating of the Bounds service (if she agrees) or something to commemorate the anniversary of the church building. Then after the reception there will be a lunch with the Bishop and the Vestry. Please plan to attend the lunch—very important!!!

I have somewhere between 9 and 13 adults who will be confirmed or received. That should dispel the rumors the church is shrinking, especially since we just confirmed 5 people last year. It is wonderful!!

There are extra expenses for a Bishop's visit including gifts for confirmands, a welcome gift for the Bishop, a donation to the Bishop's discretionary fund, and the reception and lunch. These were not anticipated in the budget.

2. I have been receiving complaints about having to sit through the postlude in silence after the 10:30 service. The original intent was to allow the online service participants to hear the music without noise or distraction since some people tune in for the music. I like it when people listen, though I understand it is a lot of music. We need to **discuss** the best way to handle this.

3. Jonathon received all the staff job descriptions.

4. Our staff met with the caterers staff. We are working out how to be together. We called the Health Department and they sent the paperwork to prepare for an inspection. We didn't need an inspection before because we did not sell food. Next week I will start working on the contract. They hope to begin occupancy July 1 at \$500 per month for the first year. We may need another refrigerator, but there are several options for that so I don't think we will need to purchase one.

5. We have the wedding information up on the website and on Facebook. We have gotten positive responses from local wedding planners but no bookings yet.

6. I will be on vacation the weekend of June 4. I will arrange for morning prayer since we have already spent our budgeted amount on supply clergy. Depending on who preaches I may have to pay them a small stipend.

Anything I am forgetting or any questions?