

# THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN IN THE WILDERNESS

## MINUTES OF THE VESTRY MEETING SEPTEMBER 12, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by Fr. Bill McCleery. Attending were Fr. Bill, Margaret Barker, Janet Johnson, Susan MacDonald, Greg Newbold, Carol Rector, Shelley Schiro, Michael Shannon, Debby Staton, Jodi Sundeen and Jerry Tanner. Jodi gave the devotional. **Janet made a Motion to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2019 Vestry Meeting, with corrections, it was seconded by Margaret and was passed.**

Jodi gave the Finance and Treasurer report. She handed out the 2019 report and the 2020 proposed budget (see attached). Both are fairly self-explanatory with notes at end of each report. Highlights were: 2019 YTD forecast for Total Income, Total Expenses for Clergy, Personnel and Administration are under budget. Expenses for Buildings and Grounds are higher due to new roofs (church and ed building), tree work and new carpets. Parish picnic expense of \$1600 will be covered by an anonymous \$2000 donation. 2020 budget pledges were bumped up to \$490,000 and Christian Ed salary changed to \$1,250 monthly, with a total of a \$15,890 deficit. Significant discussion on specific line items and ways to trim budget. All will be considered by finance committee and reviewed by Vestry at next meeting. Jodi reported Bill Farrell is working on the audit and asked for an extension, as he works with Carl Shaw (consultant from last year).

Fr. Bill, reporting for Jim Olson, requested approval of revised Bylaws. **Michael made a Motion to approve the entire revised Bylaws Document, with the understanding that the changes to Article III, regarding nominating process, will need a second vote at next meeting, it was seconded by Greg and was passed.**

Reporting on Stewardship, Michael distributed Vestry name tags for parish picnic and asked Vestry to arrive before 5:00. Hubba Hubba is catering, a skit is planned, and David and Elizabeth have done a great job organizing. Ministry Fair for Sunday is set up with many participants. There have been 65 respondents to Time & Talent Survey and Elizabeth and Candace are matching up respondents with interest chairs. Debby requested there be a signup easel for parish members with medical experience that could help if needed during church functions. Michael agreed to see that this is in place. For the Legacy Society there are 74 charter members and there will be a reception by invitation for these individuals at Debby Staton's home on October 17 from 5:00-6:30 to unveil a plaque with charter member names.

For Building and Grounds Jerry needs approval for roofing funds of \$29,260 for sanctuary and \$7,541 for education building. It will be scheduled for late November/early December with approximately 1 week for the sanctuary and 2 days for the ed building. **A Motion was made by Jerry to approve total funds of \$36,801 for new roofs for the sanctuary and education building, it was seconded by Jodi and was passed.** Jerry also requested approval for treatment of hemlock trees at a cost of \$4,020. **A Motion was made by Jerry to approve \$4,020 for treatment of 201 hemlock trees, it was seconded by Carol and was passed.** We are looking to clear property behind new parish hall behind driveway, extending all the way to Rutledge which is full of poison ivy and oak. We have an amended estimate of \$3,750. **A Motion was made by Jodi to approve \$3,750 for property clearing, it was seconded by Janet and was passed.**

New carpeting is being deferred to the future, it is regularly cleaned and is currently in good condition.

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Fr. Bill reported Christian formation is going well under the direction of Mary Anne Inglis (see attached). Adult Sunday school subjects have been decided through the end of the year and will be presented by Jim Olson, Mike Covell, E.R. Haire, and Fr. Bill. Children's sessions are back in place and are also going well.

Regarding Churchyard Committee, Debby stated they are working on policy to reclaim unused burial sites (see attached) based on the terms of the current easements. We have obtained legal advice and are awaiting on further information from the diocese. We hope to develop a policy at our October meeting and present it to the Vestry for their approval. This will allow us to meet needs for many years to come without expanding the current footprint.

For Personnel, Margaret reported she and Carol are working on job description for Dewitt and there will be job evaluations in October. Also, the discernment committee formed for E.R., has received training and is going well.

Debby, head of Vestry Nominating Committee, reports other Committee Members are David Dethero, Fr. Bill, Carol, and Brenda Hillyer and there have been two meetings. Following Diocesan approved criteria, a list of candidates has been prepared which Debby distributed to Vestry members for review. Discussion took place and, due to confidentiality, lists were returned to Debby for shredding. According to Bylaws Vestry needs to approve the list. **A Motion was made by Greg for the Vestry to approve the list, it was seconded by Janet, and was approved.** Carol will contact the top four nominees to get their approval to stand for election at the annual meeting on November 14.

Greg reported the Discernment Committee hopes to offer 2-3 candidates to the Vestry in October, while Canon Augusta has provided guidance on the methods and timing of sharing information with the Vestry. The Vestry will then invite a candidate (or candidates) to St. John's to meet with the Vestry. After many questions, Greg stressed the Vestry should rely on the Discernment Committee having done their due diligence with all of the candidates.

Carol thanked Greg and the Discernment Committee and Debby and the Nominating Committee for their hard work. Carol reported the Bishop will be coming to SJITW in 2020 to welcome the new rector and confirm and receive new members. It was decided first choice would be May 17, second choice June 7 and third choice June 14. John Bell and Tom Deyerle will be lead ushers, Lynn Savage and Deacon Sandy will be in charge of acolytes, and Betsy Tibbs greeters.

Fr. Bill reported Joey Popp is in charge of communications and publicity and Janet will be the Vestry liaison. Rev. Catherine Powell will preach on September 29, and present adult Sunday School on September 22 and 29.

Greg reported that there will be a presentation on the Rutledge Dr. safety situation to NCDOT on September 16, and previous coordination with Flat Rock Village had drawn their support.

Following The Lord's Prayer, meeting was adjourned at 7:21pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn Deyerle, Clerk