

Christ Episcopal Church

Pittsford, NY

Vestry Minutes

December 12, 2023

Present: Rev. Julianne Buenting, Patty Sampson-Bouchard, Pat Morrow, Jane Gorsline, Nahoko Kawakyu-O'Connor, Jeremy Brown, Alan Jonason, Mark Dwyer, Natalie Mai-Dixon, Daryl Sharp

Absent: Michael Kramer, Richard Smith

Other: Liz Salamone, Finance Kay Marshman, Chair of Outreach Committee

Rev Julianne Buenting called the meeting to order at 5:47 with a gathering prayer.

A motion was made by Patty Sampson-Bouchard and seconded by Pat Morrow to accept the agenda. The motion was carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Jane Gorsline and seconded by Jeremy Brown to accept the minutes of the November 14, 2023 meeting with modest changes. These minutes had been circulated by email. The motion was carried unanimously.

Financial Presentation

Liz Salamone reviewed the Treasurer's Report in Michael Lehman's absence. For the 2023 year, it looks like we will be close to breaking even at the end of the year. This has been accomplished, in part, by taking a larger investment draw and exceeding our 4% annual draw. There continues to be a need for a concerted effort to build our pledge base. Currently, there are 126 pledgers totaling \$359,349. The 2024 budget is being built on pledges equaling \$500,000.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the need to let our parishioners know of the 2024 draft budget shortfall. It was decided to hold a meeting on January 7, 2024 between services to alert the congregation to the possibility of an austerity budget with significant cuts. The Vestry also discussed the possibility of raising the annual draw from investments from 4% to 5% and drawing from the Reserve Fund.

Since the 2024 budget is in flux a motion was made by Patty Sampson-Bouchard and seconded by Jeremy Brown to move the Vestry vote on the 2024 budget to the January meeting. It was approved unanimously.

Outreach Committee Resolution for Cameron Ministries Bridge Funding

Kay Marshman, Chair of Outreach presented the recommendation from the Outreach Committee to give \$10,000 to Cameron Ministries as a bridge grant for their youth and employment support programs. A discussion followed.

A motion was made by Patty Sampson and seconded by Jane Gorsline to approve the \$10,000 grant to Cameron Ministries. The motion was carried unanimously.

Nominations Committee Report: 2024 Candidates

The following candidates have accepted positions on the Vestry: Warden, Pat Morrow; Vestry Members, Tom Fogg, Laurie Sorge, and David Beiler; Diocese Representative, Shirley Shaw

Children's Formation Idea for January to June 2024

Rev Julianne Buenting presented a pilot project that she would like to begin in January. It would take place one Sunday a month and would introduce the children to the beginning of the church service, then 2 adults would join the children in the Children's Chapel for a children's service, and then the children would join their parents for communion. The Vestry members were excited about this pilot and endorsed it moving forward.

Closing Prayer

Julianne Buenting led the Vestry in the closing prayer.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Patty Sampson-Bouchard and seconded by Alan Jonason to adjourn. The motion was carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00.

Kay Marshman, Clerk

Handouts: Agenda, Opening Prayer, Vestry Minutes, Financial Report, Preliminary 2024 Operating Budget