

St. James Vestry Minutes
Thursday, February 24, 2022

Fr. De Freeman, Fr. Forbes Sirmon, Sr. Warden Jeanie Smith, Clerk Bruce Stone, Parish Administrator Meghan Fancher, Jim Ketchum, Bebe Goetter, Earl Jackson, Elizabeth Erwin, Laura Jones, Ben Coddling, Chris Nelson, Matthew Myrick, Tracy Corte, Peter Gaillard and Mary Statkewicz. Former Vestry members, Elizabeth Orr, Pel Henry, and Ed Shell .

Vestry Members Absent: Shannon Pesnell, Lauren Arington, and Katie Smith

Vestry meeting commenced @ approximately 5:45pm

Opening prayer – Fr. De Freeman

Recitation of Mission Statement

Bebe Goetter led meditation –

Discussion:

Building & School update – Fr. De

Former Vestry Members Elizabeth Orr, Pel Henry and Ed Shell were in attendance. Jim Ketchum presented a visual display of the present School layouts and usage, commencing with the original school opening date through the present 3rd grade to be added this coming Fall. Discussed current usage of Green Hall and problems with scheduling between school & Church activities. Meghan reviewed a “day in the life” of scheduling, which is not expected to get any easier in the future.

Upcoming school summer program was briefly discussed

De, Chuck Coddling (Bens’ father) & Jim Ketchum are currently re-working the RFP (Request for Proposal). Apparently, there is a need to pare down the included information.

Ed Shell discussed Memorial Garden expansion, and a brief history for new Vestry members.

Meghan brought the vestry up to speed about current projects and maintenance issues:

1. New railing for front porch is almost complete, and expected to be installed by Palm Sunday
2. New water leak on campus on “our” side of the meter, Dowsey’s has taken care of, and repairs expected on 3/1/22
3. Kitchen drain is backing up - Roto Rooter called and was fixed, will be following up with recommended maintenance.

De added that the Church is having issues with AT&T phone & internet system. Any upgrade through this provider to possibly alleviate the issues would increase from currently \$400/month to \$2,000/month. AT&T is the only provider available for our location but the staff will continue to search for other providers.

The Vestry went into Executive session for discussion.

The meeting continued after the session ended.

Jim Ketchum reviewed financials for the month. January was a good month, and expenses under budget. Jim reviewed balance sheet, and pointed out that REIT (Real Estate Investment Trust) gift will be transferred to our endowment fund.

A motion was made for approval of financial minutes to be filed for audit by Earl Jackson, Ben Coddington second the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Jim Ketchum will prepare address lists for Vestry to write thank you notes for those pledging for 2022

Sr. Warden, Jeanie Smith announced that Vestry would be hosting the April 6th Lenten supper and serving red beans & rice and slaw.

Motion was made for approval of the January, 2022 Vestry minutes by Earl Jackson, Chris Nelson second the motion, and January minutes were unanimously approved.

Fr. De reported that an outstanding group of guest speakers for the Wednesday evening Lenten suppers and to check Anchor Lines for upcoming speakers & topics

He added that this year's Shrove Tuesday, (March 1st) will be serving Chicken & Waffles, rather than traditional pancake supper, from 5:30pm – 7pm. The staff thought it might be a fun twist on a familiar parish tradition.

The next Vestry meeting is scheduled for March 17, 2022

There being no further business, Fr. Forbes closed with prayer, and the February, 2022 Vestry meeting was adjourned