

St. James Episcopal Church  
Vestry Meeting  
December 11, 2019

Present: Karen Derr, Marilyn Dowdle, Nancy Folts, Jim Grillo, Gregg Learned, Leah Nichiporuk, Joan Rogerson, Charlie Skinner, The Very Reverend Lynne Sharp  
Absent: Gladys Palmer

Rev. Lynne opened the meeting with prayer at 7:00 PM

1. Approval of minutes

**Charlie moved, seconded by Gregg, to approve November's vestry meeting minutes. Carried.**

**Leah moved, seconded by Charlie, to approve the minutes of the special vestry meeting of December 8. Carried.**

2. Rector's Report

a. Headphones: A hearing loop and receivers were included when the sound system was installed. The audio person said we needed to check the frequencies.

b. The nominating committee is Karen Derr and Marilyn Dowdle. Leah and Nancy have agreed to stay on as wardens, and three new vestry members are needed. Also needed are 1-2 deputies to join Charlie as delegates to Southeast district.

c. The annual meeting will be January 19 and *reports for the meeting are due January 8.*

d. Radio station WVIN is seeking clergy to give a 15 second Christmas message which will be played 12-15 times during the Christmas season.

**Leah moved, seconded by Marilyn, to have Rev. Lynne participate in WVIN's clergy Christmas message. Carried.**

e. Parish Project: Karen reported that the College Of Congregational has asked participants to design a project to help people get more comfortable in talking about their faith. Parishioners will be asked to identify how St. James is perceived when people walk into the church, how St. James has made a difference in one's faith life, and how do we share our faith in our family, work, social and civic life.

3. Treasurer's Report

**Jim moved, seconded by Joan, to approve the financial report. Carried**

**Jim moved, seconded by Joan, that the proposed budget be approved. Carried.**

4. Committee Reports

a. Mission Committee – no report

b. Buildings and Grounds

i) Security System

**Jim moved, seconded by Leah, to not accept the security proposal at this time. Carried.**

ii) Fire system:

- There is poor internet and wireless in the church. *Gregg offered to have Bully*

*Hill's IT person evaluate the problems.*

- Karen checked with the church insurance company and the reduction in premium with the fire system would be miniscule, in the neighborhood of \$100.
- After discussion vestry members were unable to reach consensus about going forward with the fire system. Rev. Lynne asked vestry members to pray about the decision and re-visit the topic at February's meeting.

**Karen moved, seconded by Marilyn, to table discussion and decision about the fire system until February's vestry meeting. Carried.**

- iii. Safe Church: all are up to date.
- iv. Snow removal: The person who has shoveled the past three years has not completed his task as directed. He will be relieved of his job. There is another student who is interested.
- v. Tower door: The frame needs to be rebuilt. Nancy has installed weather stripping to the door.
- vi. Parish Hall light switch: Gregg will check the light switch.

5. Evangelism:

- a. Cookie Walk: Marilyn shared how inspiring it was to share the church with the cookie walk participants.
- b. Italian Dinner is January 18

6. Children and Youth

- a. Athlete's dinner is next Tuesday
- b. Youth Group Christmas Party: 6 youth attended. The next Youth Group is January 12 at St. James.

7. Altar Guild: All Christmas flowers, wreathes and garland have been ordered.

- Church cleaning December 15 (with soup and bread at Coffee Hour)
- Greening of the church December 22
- Gregg will have a Bully Hill crew hang the garland.

8. Other Business – none

Gregg offered the closing prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Bidwell  
Clerk of the Vestry