

Vestry Meeting Minutes September 11, 2024

Present: Jim Grillo, senior warden; Leah Nichiporuk, junior warden; Wayne Grimes, administrative assistant; Joan Rogerson; Richard Little; Nick Forenz; Virginia Kasser; Deb Bartlett; Karen Derr, Treasurer; Father Craig; Donna Noteware, clerk

Absent: Gregg Learned

- 1. Father Craig called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and opened with prayer.**
- 2. Approval of the minutes: Nick made a motion to accept the minutes from the regular Vestry meeting June 12, 2024; the June 16, 2024 meeting after church; the June 21, 2024 and August 11, 2024 meetings via email and Leah seconded the motion. All were in favor so the motion carried.**
- 3. Treasurer's report: After Karen explained some line items on the June, July and August reports, Jim made a motion to accept the treasurer's reports and Richard seconded. All were in favor- the motion carried.**
- 4. Southeast District Delegate update- Our Delegate, Richard Little, explained the Southeast District Mission Project – LifePacks - backpacks with 8 basic necessities for Ukrainian children suffering from the war. The nine Episcopal Churches in the Southeast District of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester are working together to raise funds to assist "Save Ukraine" in providing the LifePacks. Each backpack costs \$50. The backpacks will be handed out in February 2025. Father Craig serves as a clergy member of the Southeast District. Father Craig and Richard will decide what needs to be handed out to Parishioners about contributing toward the backpacks.**
- 5. Building Use- Virginia Kasser, the representative of the committee, presented the Building and Facilities Use Policy: Who may use the Church and who may not; The role of the Church representatives; The Alcohol Policy. Going forward there is a Building Use Application form which will be filled out and presented to the Vestry for approval. The forms can be**

obtained from Father Craig. Joan made the motion to adopt the Building Use Policy and Leah seconded the motion. All were in favor so the motion carried.

6. Discussion of Vestry size; Nick mentioned that at one time, there were 13 members; at the present time there are 9 members- which includes a Senior and Junior Warden; The Vestry was asked to think about having a smaller group- 5 members plus the two wardens. Baseball give-away- Father Craig gave each Vestry Member a baseball signed by the Elmira Pioneers.
7. Sacristy and stairs carpeting: Leah said the carpet is picked out and will be installed by Carpet World.
8. Mission Committee request for budget line item: Donna presented the Proposal for the Vestry to prayerfully consider adding a line item in the annual budget for Mission and Outreach. (Not to exceed \$5000). Some of the discussion- 1. Some member of the congregation pledge to Mission. 2. Our congregation is generous- for example the fire in Pulteney and the Steuben County flood victims from Hurricane Debbie. 3. If you have a line item the apportionment to the Diocese will increase while the pledges to Mission and the generosity of the congregation are added to the Restricted Account and are not subject to apportionment. After discussion, the Vestry liked the beginning of the proposal: "We recognize that everything we are and have is a gift from God. We are called to be grateful and generous with those gifts. We are inspired by scripture telling of blessings to those who cheerfully give." The Vestry decided to not add a line item at this time.
9. AAUW Christmas Party – Tuesday, December 3, 2024 from 5:00 to 8:00 pm
Father Craig will ask Mary White to fill out the new form and Joan Rogerson will open the church and close up afterward.
10. New copier/printer- Wayne and Gregg. Gregg absent. Discussion: Maybe outsource weddings, baptisms etc.; black and white printer- no color; rent or buy? Wayne will continue to investigate.

- 11. QKA Aging in Place Wednesday September 18, 2024: Donna will open the church at 4:00 pm for Carol Israel and Virginia Kasser will close up the church at 8:30 pm. Already approved.**
- 12. Cookie Walk December 7: participation details: Karen will make the cookies; Leah has the frosting in the freezer and Leah will organize workers to frost the cookies.**
- 13. Mission request: The Mission Committee requested \$1000 be sent to the American Friends of the Diocese of Jerusalem. Deb Bartlett made the motion to give \$1000 to the American Friends of the Diocese of Jerusalem and Richard seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.**
- 14. Taylor Grant: St. James received \$10,000 from the Taylor Grant. Leah made the motion that the \$10,000 be used to rebuild the front steps of the church and Joan seconded the motion. All were in favor so the motion carried. The Vestry is waiting for an estimate from Conner Long.**
- 15. For the Good of the Order: The Italian Dinner September 14, 2024- all set on Food and workers.**

Jim made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 pm, Nick seconded and all were in favor.

Respectively submitted, Donna Noteware, clerk