

**St. John's Episcopal Church  
Dryden, MI  
Unofficial Meeting Minutes June 13, 2021 Vestry Meeting**

Opening Prayer – Wes Wagester at 4:01 pm

Attendance: Becky Foster, Jack Dodd, Neil Hargrave, Rev. Tom Manney, Connie Ogg, and Wes Wagester.

Absent: Lelia Wagner.

Visitors: Roxanne Todd.

Check-in for Vestry and news about members we haven't seen in a while....

Agenda Review and Approval: Moved to approve as changed: Neil Hargrave, Second: Wes Wagister. Approved.

### **New Business**

#### **1. Gift Basket Raffle –**

- a. Is this something to continue?
- b. I think the idea was that the winner would manage the next round.
- c. Do we want to designate the money or just go to the general fund?  
Collected over \$100.00. Moved to put the money where the person making the basket wants it to be applied: Connie Ogg, Second: Jack Dodd. Approved.

#### **2. An offer for gift to remember Don, Tim and Harold**

- a. A couple from our congregation would like to make a special donation to remember these beloved members of our church. I floated the idea of the bell but that didn't appeal.
- b. What would be a good symbol of these special people?  
There should be a sign to recognize the gift on the shed for Don and for the bell for Tim and for Harold when it is decided.

#### **3. Exploring the possibility of recruiting teens for choir with pay**

- a. We could really use more voices in the choir.
- b. We could really use the energy young people would bring to our worship
- c. Proposing that we consider recruiting teens from local schools or through local music teachers to join our choir for an hourly rate TBD.
- d. This could tie in with the item #1 – Don, Tim and Harold spent time and talent in developing young people in various ways. If we started this project with an account/fund that would be ongoing, we would continue their work.
- e. I propose that two of us (I'd be happy to participate) work on developing this proposal further with the goal of having something to vote on in our July meeting.
- f. Requesting a vote on taking this next step.  
Move: Rev Tom Manney, Second: Neil Hargrave. Approved.

#### **4. Outdoor service this summer (and maybe a church picnic?)**

- a. Our outdoor coffee hour was very popular. Tom has commented that we might consider holding a service outside later this summer.
- b. Things to consider
  - i. Sound – we'll need some amplification for speakers.
  - ii. Music – how do we provide music?
  - iii. Set-up – chairs, altar, etc. This will require a good set-up team on the morning of the service
- c. Would we like to combine this with a church picnic?
  - i. Would be our first pot-luck in over a year
  - ii. Would make the day even more festive
  - iii. But might be too much on one day
  - iv. Maybe schedule for a different Sunday? When?  
We will plan the Church picnic for September

#### **5. Mid-Year review and assessment**

- a. Coming out of Covid restrictions seems to call for a review and recalibration going forward
- b. Proposing we use most of our July Vestry meeting for this purpose
- c. Questions to consider
  - i. How are we doing as a team?
  - ii. What might be done better both in general in for specific roles
    - 1. Sr. Warden, Jr. Warden, Clerk and other Vestry roles
    - 2. Any feedback for Tom?
  - iii. Have we reconnected with all of our members, near and far?
  - iv. How might we continue to reinvigorate our church the rest of this year?
  - v. What opportunities do we have to bring in some new faces?

#### **6. Do we want to continue to have Vestry meetings over Zoom?**

Moved to not continue the Vestry Meetings to the church after a brief coffee hour attendance and when choir starts again after choir practice (approximately 12:30 pm) starting next meeting July 18, 2021: Jack Dodd, Second: Neil Hargrave. Approved.

#### **On-going Project Updates and Discussion**

##### **1. Adding a Debit Card to our bank account**

- a. Card received and first use successful!

##### **2. Worship – Tom**

- a. Prepackaged Communion still being researched and refined  
Tom asked this be tabled.

### 3. **Replacing office desktop computer**

- a. Computer and monitor on hand. Application transfer process very difficult in spite of purchased software to help out.
- b. When new computer is completely on-line, we need to find new homes for old equipment
  - i. Best Buy will take the desk-top for free and the monitor for a small charge.
  - ii. Any other suggestions

### 4. **Possible Live stream Grant from Diocese:** Application made. Approved & Received

- a. Lelia has been swamped and not able to work on this at the moment
- b. Becky may try to move this forward in the meantime.

### 5. **Memorials**

- a. Donna Lou Haynes

Becky Foster will talk to Sherry Wagner about using the money collected to purchase an Angel for the creche outside at Christmas.
- b. Tim Wright – Looking into the cost associated with replacing the automated bell ringer. Tom Manney has been talking with representatives to get an idea. Sue expressed a willingness to add funds if needed.
- c. Kathy Hall (Becky Foster's sister) – Becky Foster was surprised and touched by these donations. Will add them to whatever the Vestry would recommend.

### 6. **Expanding OTR to include additional schools**

Our support of the Dryden High School students for winter wear, school supplies and sponsoring one student to summer camp has been doing well. There've been suggestions that we might want to expand this to additional schools in Imlay City or Capac. Some initial research is needed.

- i. We need to find the name of the district's social worker or other coordinator for donations to students.

### 7. **A possible outreach opportunity – Double Help-ing**

- a. No financial response to the Facebook posting
- b. Some additional funds from members of the congregation. We have some funds to convert in the coming month.
- c. Linked Hearts sent thank-you for donation

### 8. **Roof Replacement Project – Jack Dodd**

- a. Roof and gutters done? Not much to do if anything.

### 9. **Blessing of the new roof**

- a. Blessed the roof on June 6, 2021. Outdoor coffee hour a success. Considering possibility of outdoor service later in the summer.

## 10. What to do with funds remaining in Roof Replacement restricted fund

- a. It looks like we'll have about \$8,000 left over from this project. We agreed to use this to repair foundation if needed.
- b. Do we have names of stonemasons who might be able to help?

## 11. Application process for Thriving BiVocational (TBVC) Congregation program

- a. First session June 19<sup>th</sup>.
- b. There will be "homework" that involves the congregation – we're all curious about what that might be.

## Records Review

### 1. Vestry minutes for May 9th, 2021 Meeting - Neil Hargrave

Moved to approve as published: Wes Wagister, Second: Jack Dodd. Approved.

### 2. Financial Reports –

- Income
  - Pledges are over budget for the month and the year. Having more attendance on Sundays may be helping with this.
- Expenses
  - Accounts from last month that were over budget YTD but coming back in line
    - 60500 – Altar Guild
    - 61500 – Music,
    - 65500 – Lawn/Snow/Trash
    - 73500 – Publications
  - Accounts over budget YTD but only slightly
    - 79000- Administrative Assistant
  - Accounts over budget YTD but which were anticipated and approved in prior meetings
    - 76500 – Telephone & Computer. The purchase of a new desktop computer for Roxanne. This charge will probably keep this account over budget for the rest of the year..
    - 89100 – Gifts. This overage reflects the donation we approved for St. Paul's Bad Ax's building project. This account will remain over budget for the rest of the year but will recover a little each month.
  - Seasonal
    - 77000 – Utilities. The cold snap in May meant we still used the furnace. The monthly amount is within budget. Hoping June will allow us to recoup some of the YTD overage.
  - Restricted Funds
    - Minor disbursements

- Curacy program disbursements according to schedule
  - Paying for roof and gutters
  - Income
    - Double-Helping donation of \$50
- Overall – Monthly net income \$3,028. YTD income - \$8,376 (most of this is from the Roof Replacement Allocation account which we hope to convert to a Rainy-Day fund at year's end).

Moved to approve the Monthly Financial Report: Neil Hargrave, Second: Wes Wagester. Approved.

**Tabled for the time being:**

- 1 Investment Options
- 2 Distributing Historical Photos and Framed Pictures

Next Vestry Meeting date and time: July 18, 2021 12:30 PM at the Church.

Next Month's Devotion: Jack Dodd

Moved to adjourn at 5:03 pm : Neil Hargrave, Second: Becky Foster. Approved.

Closing Prayer: Lord's Prayer led by Rev. Tom Manney.

The unofficial meeting minutes of the Vestry are being respectfully submitted by:  
EN Hargrave