

Approved St. Andrew's Vestry Meeting Minutes
July 11, 2023

Members Present: Fr. Jeff Packard, Tom Hall, Fran Stevenson, Sandy Schwartz, Barb Downs, Kathy Dittmann, Julie Breuninger, Sarah Klinetob-Lowe, Carolyn Donaldson. Online-Paul Hochreiter, Amy Pritchett

Members Absent: Daniel Foster, Rich Marini

Guests: Julie Kwasnica, Jason McCloskey, Robin Bastress (online)

Clerk: Beth Jones

Call to Order: 7:03PM

I. **Opening prayer** - Fr. Jeff

II. **Minutes** - Minutes from June vestry meeting stand as approved.

In order to accommodate the vestry guests, the agenda has been reordered.

VI. **New Business:**

A. Proposal for consultants to help with strategic planning

- The Vandersall Collective is an agency that focuses on interactive, transformative interactions by working with congregations to identify the core values of the congregation.
- Two vestry members created a document in order to inform and describe the work Vandersall proposes for St. Andrew's and what they did with other churches and/or non-profit groups. The document is in the Google drive under Junior Warden's report.
- A small committee consisting of vestry members and congregation members met with other groups who have worked with Vandersall to hear their testimonials. All of the members of the committee came away with glowing, positive responses.
- In short, Vandersall would conduct a thorough ethical inventory (questionnaire) of the St. Andrew's congregation and involved communities, emphasizing the necessity of all being invested. With those data, Vandersall will identify the core values of St. Andrew's and formulate a "Filter" through which all strategic decisions are made.
- Buy-in from the entire church community is most desired; this creates most cohesiveness.

- Many observations, questions and discussion followed.
- **Motion: Is the vestry in agreement that we should hire Vandersall to help with the strategic planning?** - Tom, 2nd -Sarah. Unanimous, no abstentions or objections.
- The full proposal should be in the Google drive.

III. Reports:

A. **Rector's report** - 1) After the second call for increased pledging, 2 more came in with a third possible, as of July 9th. This makes the total pledge amount to be over \$427,644, ~ \$2000 more than the budget projection. 2) Fr. Jeff is planning to take a sabbatical in 2025, but no definite plans yet. 3) Ruth Packard was hired to be the videographer. The Rector's complete report is in the Google drive. B. **Assistant Rector's report** - Not available.

C. **Senior warden's report** - Focuses on the conversations that the above-mentioned committee had with the organizations that have already had involvement with the Vandersall Collective. Full report is in the Google drive. D. **Junior warden's report** - Document describing Vandersall Collective and conversations with them. In the Google drive.

E. **Treasurer's report** - (1) June's income was good, really nice for June. (2) The water damage payments will be paid from the 2020 Surplus account. (3) Unanimous approval from vestry to pay for the remainder of the bill for painting of the stained-glass window frames from the Brenneman Fund. (4) Income/Expense report and Savings report are in the Google drive.

F. Committees and other ministries:

- **Adult formation** - Paul Hochreiter suggests that St. Andrew's update our photo registry since the last one was in 2019 and we have had many changes.
- **Parishioner's Ministry** - Sandy Schwartz reported the expenditures and balance for June. In the Google drive.

IV. Discussion:

- **Dinner Groups** - Food for the Soul. Fran Stevenson and Kathy Dittmann have brainstormed a plan to have small dinner group gatherings for new and existing parishioners to get to know each other better and be more involved, No reasonable idea is off the table (no pun intended) - couples groups, singles groups, singles and couples, special-interest groups, dinner, lunch, breakfast, at a home, at a restaurant, at a park...The document is in the Google drive. Participation is encouraged and welcomed.

VII. **Closing Prayer and Benediction:** at 8:43 pm the meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer led by Fr. Jeff.

VIII. **THERE WILL BE NO VESTRY MEETING IN AUGUST.**

Fr. Jeff has asked the vestry to approve funding suggestions for full consultancy from the Vandersall Collective Proposal by email.

The next vestry meeting will be on Sept. 12, 2023 at 7:00 PM in room 325.

Submitted by Beth Jones