

St. Thomas' Vestry Minutes

April 23, 2019

Attending: Mother Lisa, Carlos Mello – Sr. Warden, Edmund Hartt -- Jr. Warden, Br. Donovan Bowley, Fred Bucklin, Sarah Groman, Barbara Lawrence, Elizabeth Moran, Eileen Morelli, Suzanne Scott, Haunani Wallace, Terry Mello – Treasurer.

Excused Absence: Shirley Fierro – Clerk of the Vestry

Devotional: John 20:19-31

Vestry Papers – Suzanne Scott – “Adapt or Die” by Ben Howard – imperative to consider change to engage new members. Discussion followed.

March 19 Vestry Minutes: Unanimous approval

Treasurer Report

- Outreach Pass-Through Donations from January – April totaled \$2,079
- Nothing major to report

Rector's Report:

- Easter attendance was up by 25% from last year.
- Quarry Hill Service was well attended
- New Sexton – Bob Card

Senior Warden:

- Discussed Strategic Plan for 2019 – further discussed in “New Business”

Jr. Warden

- BES is coming on Thursday, April 25
- Organ repair tuner is coming in Tuesday, April 30th to assess the situation. Once organ repair starts, the entire organ will be “offline”. *After our April 23rd meeting, it was determined that the organ would not be offline.*
- Planters in front of the parking lot will be removed. One is blocking a hose pipe that needs to be repaired. Edmund will determine which planters need to be moved
- Elizabeth will contact Rachael and Karen to ask if the Children would like to plant flowers and vegetables in two of the planters.

Christian Education report will be submitted in May.

Old Business

- Revised All Souls Garden bylaws were passed unanimously.

New Business

Carlos – Strategic Plan

- Housekeeping – individual Surveys will not be shared.
- Start with two priorities from the survey.
- Membership engagement
 - Starting a dialog
 - Establishing a culture that we can embrace
 - Committee needed to work on Membership Engagement
 - Don't want to leave people out
 - Need to be flexible – have to change culture of “we've always done it this way”
 - Goal – culture which is welcoming, inclusive and holds each other accountable.
- How do we bring a Wednesday evening service?
 - Scope
 - Opportunities
 - Pot Luck involved?
 - Lisa and Abby have been discussing for two years
 - Rite III
 - Let Lisa know if you are interested in being part of the conversation about Wednesday Evening Service
 - Potential start of mid-Summer
- Vestry members should contemplate whether they want to be involved in either of these journeys and let Lisa and Carlos know. Also, Vestry members should ask other people if they are interested.

Other New Business

- Church is open when the office is open. Sundays it is open all day until after Centering Prayer.
- Terry asked the Vestry to take a few minutes to look at website and make suggestions. We are trying to keep it up to date and make it the “go to” place for St. Thomas' information.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted –
Terry Mello, Treasurer

Upcoming Dates

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| April 25 | Diocesan Spring Training |
| May 5 | Dedication of Kneeler in honor of Parker Laite |
| May 8 | COM, Rector in Waterville |
| May 11 | Camden Conference meeting (our building in use) |
| May 11 | Clergy farewell to the Lane's in Bangor (Rector attending) |
| May 16 | Fresh Start (Rector in Waterville) |
| May 17 & 18 | Rehearsal and Wedding in Church |

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 21st