

**St. Thomas Vestry Meeting**  
**May 15, 2023**  
**6:30 pm**

Present: Elizabeth Moran, Senior Warden; Br. Donovan Bowley, Junior Warden; Terry Mello, Treasurer; Anne Rogers-Popejoy; Clerk; Jacqueline Recht; Benjy Lowry; Jan Lyle; Gwen Prosser, Sarah Groman.  
Absent: Kendra Watkins

**Motion to approve the April Minutes as presented: Benjy moves, second Jan. Motion carries.**

Senior Warden's Report: State of the Sabbatical: Supply priest has been very well received. In general, we are fine – but not without issue. No major administrative issues and Jon continues to fill in as Sexton. The warden requests that any comments brought to this group are answered simply or directed to her.

A group will meet following this meeting to follow up on staffing the office and dividing responsibilities during and after the rector's sabbatical.

Junior Warden's Report: Junior Warden reports that he is following up on the stove issue, and consulted with an electrician regarding the project. An electric stove, or any additional use of power will require additional electrical service to the kitchen. Benjy recommends putting in two gas stoves now as a cost effective 5-10 year solution. General consensus.

Treasurer's Report: Please note that Terry will send an updated report correcting "2021" to "2022." The Senior Warden and Jan will help send a June mailing outlining remaining pledge balances. **Senior Warden proclaims the report as received to be filed.**

**Jan moves that we approve the audit report to be sent to the Diocese, second Gwen. Motion carries.**

Senior Warden proposes to elect Terry Mello treasurer of the parish, dropping her interim title, to serve out the remainder of the term she is currently filling, slated to end January 2025, or at the time of the annual meeting in 2025. **Sarah moves to elect Terry Mello treasurer, second Elizabeth. Motion passes.**

Terry adds that she is looking for an assistant treasurer. As noted in the audit report, it is quite important that there is more than one person in the parish familiar with the finances.

### Old Business:

*Revision of the bylaws:* The process to approve the updated bylaws did not follow the process outlined by the Diocese. Bylaws should go from the bylaws committee, to the vestry for revision and recommendation, then to the annual meeting for parish approval and finally to the Diocesan Standing Committee for review, revision, and approval. The Standing Committee does not want to review the bylaws if they have not been approved by the vestry and parish, which is the current case. The Senior Warden recommends that we continue to operate under the 2014 Bylaws. When the rector returns from sabbatical, she will regroup the ByLaws Committee and proceed as outlined by the Diocese.

*Tower Project:* The Senior Warden reports that the Historic Resources Committee meeting was tense: she recommends that we follow up on their recommendations for additional funding sources. The Fundraising Committee hired Evergreen Philanthropic Solutions as fundraising consultants. They have started their work.

### New Business:

*Summer Fair:* Kate Jackson visited as the chair of the Summer Fair committee. The fair will be held August 12. She shared that the purpose is outreach to the community. The fair will have a mix of vendors, raffle baskets, box lunches, and activities. The idea is to utilize well known artisans/vendors as a draw. We do need to clarify with the Diocese if we can bring in for-profit vendors. Terry will look into that.

*Outreach Committee:* Had their first meeting today, chaired by Gwen Prosser. The Senior Warden sees the return of these committees as important to the life of the church.

*Richard I. Thomas Scholarships:* Regularly awarded in the summer for \$3000 each from a designated fund. Senior Warden would like to finalize the amount and the parameters at the next meeting.

*Flags in Church:* Memorial Day and July 2. Senior Warden would like the church and American flag placed at the Baptismal Font on Memorial Day and processed and then returned to the font on July 2.

*Announcements:* Senior Warden suggests that announcements be sent to the Admin, who will compile them and print them for a reader.

***Senior Warden closes the meeting in prayer at 8:10pm.***

*Next Vestry Meeting June 19.*