

## **St. Thomas Vestry Meeting**

**July 17, 2023**

**6:30 pm**

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

Senior Warden opens the meeting with a blessing.

Benjy moves to accept minutes of the last meeting, Prosser seconds.

Six Month Report of the Treasurer: Pledge balance and corresponding letter were mailed to the Parish: we will wait to determine the results of the letter in our finances. Quick Books Online has been purchased and Treasurer will move data. We have not had any interest in an assistant treasurer position. Benjy wonders if we should query specific people.

### *Old Business*

Admin/Communications Position: No responses from the article in Tidings; which likely means that the position will need to be more than 10 hours. Discussion followed regarding the number of hours required and the ability to attract and retain a qualified individual. The group landed on 16 hours per week at \$20 per hour and a position title of Part-Time Communications and Office Manager. Senior Warden would like the position posted by the end of this week.

Stove Update: Terry contacted PG Willey; they will assess whether we can replace one stove with two. If it is possible, Terry will order the stoves and schedule installation.

Building and Grounds Update: The Senior Warden reports that new lawn service is working out well; Sarah has kicked off the weeding; and the Camden Garden Club will maintain the gardens in exchange for meeting in the building.

Richard I Thomas Scholarship Update: The committee has met and selected two scholars. The Senior Warden will contact the recipients and ask them to attend a service to receive their checks and a blessing.

### *New Business*

Tower Project: The Senior Warden signed a contract to conduct a preservation architect's study and report on the building prior to the construction. The Historic Resource Committee is still discussing the project and has involved the State. There is significant resistance to the project. The senior warden encourages this group to communicate with these committees.

Outreach Committee: Gwen Prosser. The committee has helped individual people with an eye appointment and car registration: funds are paid directly to the entity, not the individual (ie directly to the eye doctor or the town). On a larger level, they are helping Finding our Voices and Hospitality House. The Senior Warden encourages the group to explore geographic boundaries so that we do not overlap with other churches during the same work.

Ministries: The Senior Warden stresses that it is important for the Parish to know about the hard work parishioners do in our church and community; and that there are opportunities available to join or restart this work. She has appointed vestry representatives to each ministry, who will report to the vestry once per year and be responsible for promoting the ministry. Kendra suggests slides/videos in addition to hand outs for people to learn from and take home.

Senior warden asks the vestry to approve the re-establishment of parish ministries with vestry liaisons: Jan moves, Benjy seconds. Motion carries.

Senior warden asks for a motion to approve formation of a by-laws committee: Benjy motions, Gwen seconds. Motion carries.

Senior Warden shares that we are short three of the nine required vestry members: two expiring in January 2025 and one in January 2026. She nominates Anne Rogers-Popejoy, effective September 1 (when she is no longer employed by the parish as interim admin) Sarah moves, second Jacqueline. Motion carries.

Senior Warden closes the meeting with the Lord's Prayer at 7:50 pm.