

**St. Anne's Parish**  
**Vestry Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, March 14, 2023**

*Clergy & Vestry Members Present*

Rev. Dr. Manoj Zacharia  
Susan Thaxton (Presiding)  
Katie Burke  
Emily Langston  
Katie Creely  
Howard Buskirk  
Lauren Dana-Evans  
Al Collins  
Glenn Mortoro  
Bill Silva  
Tom May  
David Huggins  
Townsend McNitt  
Kev

*Vestry Members Absent*

Jason Houser  
Phyllis Everette

*Guests:*

Rev. Dion Thompson  
Holly Bentley  
Bill Wilbur

Opened at 7. Motion by Manoj for Susan to preside over Vestry. Seconded and passed.

- Opening Prayer & Devotion
  - Fr. Dion
- Implementation of Realm (Holly Bentley)
  - Introduction
  - Went over the Executive Summary (posted on the SharePoint)
  - Rev. Dion Thompson gave an endorsement of how Realm is working for the Bible Challenge
  - Brief introduction of the Connect app (portal for Realm)
  - Katie Creeley: Have we received the invites? Holly: Not yet
  - Howard: Pointed out some issues with the tool, but generally endorsed it
  - Manoj+: Expressed appreciation to Holly for her work to bring this along
- Outreach Grants Committee
  - Judy Guy: Provided a handout

- Judy explained the application purpose, acknowledged the committee members, and gave an accounting of the grants that were approved in 2023
- Total: \$85,792 – General fund: \$43,492, LaBrot Trust: \$5K, Virginia Meredith Trust: \$37,300
- Not all grant requests were fully funded (indicated by \* in the handout)
- Letters and checks will be delivered to the applicants on 3/15/23
- The committee will request a report in September to summarize the work done with the funding received
- Remaining funds (\$1,508) may be disbursed toward the end of the year
- Bill: Acknowledged the work and management of this ministry
- Katie B: Is this posted somewhere? A: It is in the Annual Report
- Lauren: Can we put this on the website (the list of awardees)
- Manoj: We can publish and invite the parish for prayers for the ministries that were awarded
- Susan: Appreciation conveyed for making it an easy process
- Tom: Kudos to Judy for her organization of the process
- Rector's Report
  - First a survey: Any questions on the report? None
  - Katie C: Appreciated all that Tempest is doing
  - Howard: Asked for embellishment on the Listening Committees. Anticipate that the committee will be formulated and launched in the next few months
  - Bill: Reflected the joy of having a fuller church, including the growing population of children. Lauren: The reestablishment of the Sycamore Tree is a key event that helped parents make the decision to come to church
  - Manoj+: We are a church that is spread out (Church in the circle, Parish House down the street, accessible parking). Strategic planning must address this for the next several decades.
- Junior Warden
  - Strategic Planning RFP
    - Simplified version is on the streets
  - Facility Committee Notes
    - Bill Wilbur: Discussed future plans for accessibility for our Parishioners
    - Acknowledged that changes to the church will cause angst, but we need some additional changes to integrate our parishioners
    - No suitable place for wheelchairs in the Nave
    - Proposing to remove ½ of two pews, one on each side of the outer aisles (#95 and #40)
    - Katie: Are we removing the full pew and replacing with ½ pew or are we sawing the pew in ½? A: We are sawing them in 2 pieces and removing
    - Adding brass handrails from Nave to the circle (replacing the current rod iron version)

- Al: Appreciated that we are addressing some issues. Can we make improvements to the bathroom? Bill: Most of it is in code, but there are some minor modifications expected
    - We have received a parishioner's donation for some of these upgrades
    - Considering some other improvements, but they are long-term items
    - Manoj+ extended appreciation to Bill and his committee for their hard work
  - Vestry Resource Guide Sign-up/Closing Prayer
    - Passed sign-up sheet around for Vestry members to volunteer
- Treasurer's Report
  - PASA Budget
    - Submitted for review – budget is consistent with what the Vestry had approved during the general budget discussion
    - Glenn moved to accept the budget, seconded by Al Collins; unanimously approved
    - The strategic plan will also consider how PASA can grow as it is a service to our Annapolis community as well as St. Anne's
  - Merrill Lynch transition is almost complete
    - Research turned up documentation supporting the cemetery being part of the parish
    - Strategic Growth Assessment is in process
- Stewardship update
  - We are still short on pledging, but are gaining ground slowly
  - Howard: How are we doing? It is a mixed result, but mostly encouraging
  - Non-pledge giving greatly outpaced expectations last year; hopeful for a repeat performance this year
- Registrar Report
  - Liaison Activity shared (summary posted in Vestry March folder)
- Approve February Minutes
  - Reminder: Vestry retreat May 19-20 and Vestry will be serving at church on the 21<sup>st</sup>
  - Susan motioned, Lauren seconded, unanimously approved
- Blessing of the Library
  - Manoj+: Acknowledgement and recognition of Dion+ for the blessings, prayers and presence during today's Vestry meeting
- Closing Prayer: Fr. Dion
- Motion to adjourn from Susan, seconded by Townsend, all approved.

Vestry concluded at 8:10 PM.