

Minutes of the Vestry of St. John's Church, Larchmont, NY

January 10, 2024

The Vestry held its regular meeting in person, and on Zoom conference. The membership constituted a quorum, as follows:

Rector: The Rev. Lisa Mason

Wardens: Pete Bennett (Senior Warden), Christina Battalia (Junior Warden)

Vestry Members: Kelly Chubet, Melany Gray, Russ Hall, Taddy Hall, George Matelich, Chris Plunkett, Tori Pough, Caroline Vance, and Matt Wrzesniewsky

Absent: Trisha Patterson, Angela Nesbitt and Lisa Young

Guests: Frank Pierson (Treasurer), Richard Rogers (Horizon's Stewardship)

The Rev. Lisa Mason called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm with prayer.

Prior to the start of the regular business of the Vestry, Richard Rogers, SVP of Horizon's Stewardship, presented the summary of findings from the recent Parish Survey that his firm conducted as the initial step for the Capital Campaign. The net of the findings are that the parish is in a good position to launch a Capital Campaign in 2024 and that our goal is achievable if we are able to secure the lead gifts (approx. 10) to build momentum. Full details of the survey were distributed and are available in the parish office. Upon the completion of a brief Q&A, Mr. Rogers left the meeting at 7:40 pm and the Vestry continued with regular business at hand.

Ministry moments were shared and Tori Pough offered a meditation and hand-out based on Hymn 694 (God Be In My Head, And In My Thinking...).

Minutes /Clerk's Report: Tori Pough requested the approval of the minutes from the December Vestry meeting

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Vestry approved the minutes from the December 19, 2023 Vestry meeting.

Rector's Report: Rev. Lisa announced that our new staff hires, Matthew Lewis (Music Director) and Lori Wilson (Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministry) have been warmly welcomed by all and asked that we keep them in our prayers as they continue to settle in to new roles. The turnout for honoring Dr. Paul Martin Maki, Organist Emeritus, was very good and he was most grateful. Christmas services were at capacity, with over 1,000 people attending one of the 4 services offered between Christmas Eve and Christmas morning.

Senior Warden Report: Pete Bennett reviewed the agenda for the Annual Meeting to be held on January 28th which will start at 10 am with an abbreviated Eucharist service, followed by the committee reports, budgets and votes in the Parish Hall. All Vestry members are encouraged to attend. Pete also provided a general overview of the Annual Vestry Retreat, to be held at the Holmes Center on February 2-4, 2024.

Junior Warden/Buildings and Grounds Report: Christina Battalia reported that the roof above the Living Room area needs repairs and requested approval to spend up to \$7,500 for the necessary work.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Vestry approved up to a \$7,500 payment for necessary repairs to the roof above the living room area.

Stewardship Report: Russ Hall reported that 90 estimated giving cards have been submitted which total approximately \$600k pledged. There are 39 giving households which responded last year and we are still anticipating that those will come in over the next month or so. There are 15 new households who have submitted an estimated giving card. Of the continuing pledges, 55 have increased their amount, 20 have remained the same and 8 have decreased their estimated giving.

Financial Report: Frank Pierson issued his report in advance of the meeting and will go in to further detail at the Annual Meeting. The budget is on track and there are no concerns at this time.

New Business: Database sharing for sole purpose of Capitol Campaign. In order to accurately identify households for various tiers of giving in the Capital Campaign, it would be helpful if Rev. Lisa and Treasurer Frank Pierson were to be able to share information with Horizons Stewardship regarding what households fall into the same tier of giving, identified by a range of dollar amounts. In order that confidentiality be maintained, these tiers will only include names in alpha order and not specific historical giving amounts by household.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Vestry approved that Rev. Lisa Mason and Treasurer Frank Pierson prepare a confidential document to be shared with Horizons Stewardship that identifies 4 core giving tiers (tiers) for the purpose of properly messaging and soliciting campaign gifts that will only include family names in alpha order within a given tier.

There being no further business to bring before the Vestry, Compline was led by Rev. Lisa Mason and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tori Pough, Clerk