CHRIST CHURCH IN THE CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK
MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 8, 2024 VESTRY MEETING

Approved

Rev. Hollis called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joanna Hollis, Rector; Sheila Cooper; Rector's Warden; Mark McMahon, People's Warden; Meegan Adames; Gordon Arsenoff; Wendy Benjamin; Jonathan Clark; Jim Nichols **STAFF PRESENT:** Rev. Daphne Roberts, Dcn.

DISCIPLESHIP
Opening Prayer was led by Rev. Joanna Hollis.

ANNUAL MEETING COMMITTEE UPDATE
Rev. Hollis reported meeting with Annual Meeting Committee chair Penny Gordon and Sheila Cooper.

- Candidates for Diocesan Convention deputies and Northern Convocation delegates have been found.
- A candidate interested in running for the Outreach position on Vestry has been found.
- The committee will meet prospective candidates for People's Warden and the Stewardship Vestry seat.

STEWARDSHIP
Rector's Housing Allowance
Rev. Hollis proposed $40,000 as the amount of her 2025 compensation to be designated housing allowance.

- The housing allowance is a breakdown of compensation for tax purposes, not an added benefit.
- $40,000 is an increase from prior years based on labor and housing market conditions.
- Meegan Adames noted that money paid as housing allowance incurs CCNB no social security tax.

Mark McMahon moved the resolution (below). Meegan Adames seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Handi-Lift Bid
Jim Nichols brought Mobility Elevator & Lift Co.'s bid to repair our Handi-Lift for approval by the Vestry.

- Mobility agreed to honor the price of $58,200 quoted 12 months ago if approved by December 15.

- Christ Church has exceeded the needed amount of fundraising to pay this price. For those still interested in giving, Mark McMahon recommends starting an upkeep fund.
- Jim Nichols recommends we recognize those who have made substantial contributions. Rev. Hollis suggested making a plaque naming each donor to the extent they're comfortable.
- Jim Nichols outlined the steps between our first payment and delivery.
- Sheila Cooper led the Vestry in expressing thanks to Jim Nichols for his perseverance in this work. Meegan Adames moved to approve the bid, Jim Nichols seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Trinity Wall Street training session

Rev. Hollis reported for Jim Nichols and Mark McMahon on the property workshop(s) they attended.

- Trinity Wall Street runs training sessions to help parishes find and optimize hidden asset value.
- TWS supports this nationwide, giving a 50% match on a feasibility study and connecting peer mentors.
- A working group of parishioners to be called the 4th Century Task Force will be assembled. The task force is intended to start in January with attention to creation of a *property mission*.

FINANCE AND 2025 BUDGET

Meegan Adames presented and discussed the Finance Committee's recommendations for the 2025 Budget.

- Elaboration was provided on the role played by the new paid chorister position in singing leadership.
- It was clarified that the line item for Welcoming & Fellowship has been merged into Hospitality.
- Minor edits and precise balancing remained to be completed in the draft. A revision will be drawn up.

Following discussion, Jim Nichols moved to approve the budget with required edits. Sheila Cooper seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Acceptance of the September 10, 2024 meeting minutes

Mark McMahon moved to accept the minutes of the November 12, 2024 meeting. Jonathan Clark seconded.

The motion carried without objection. Jim Nichols abstained due to absence from the November 12 meeting.

Financial Report

Meegan Adames presented the reports. The reports were reviewed and received, subject to audit.

Topics on the Minds of the Vestry

- Sheila Cooper is writing thank-you notes to those who have pledged and generating the list of persons who have not. Vestry members are invited to call with an offer of help to any they know on the list.
- Rev. Hollis reminded members that annual ministry reports are due as soon as possible, to be used in the annual meeting packet that will be circulated two weeks before the February 2 meeting.
- Rev. Roberts notes that Rutgers Day is coming up April 24, and is seeking sponsors starting at $3,000.
  An informational e-mail will be forwarded.
  Jonathan Clark asked how we as a campus might take advantage of the April 24 date.
  Jim Nichols added that a second public tabling opportunity is the Highland Park street fair.

Key Topics

- The Vestry celebrated the funding of the Handi-Lift repair and approved a down payment to start the work.
- The Vestry approved the 2025 Budget.
- The Vestry was informed of the work with Trinity Wall Street for the revitalization of the Church's campus.

Closing prayer was led by Gordon Arsenoff.

The meeting was adjourned by Rev. Hollis at 1:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gordon Arsenoff
Recording Secretary