

CHRIST CHURCH IN THE CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK  
MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 11, 2025 VESTRY MEETING

Approved

Rev. Hollis called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Joanna Hollis, Rector; Mark McMahon, Rector's Warden; Jonathan Gloster, People's Warden; Meegan Adames; Gordon Arsenoff; Eleanor Forbes; Debra Lowe; Jim

Nichols Absent: Jonathan Clark

**STAFF PRESENT:** Rev. Daphne Roberts, Dcn.; Princess Zoe Godwin, Social Work Intern

**DISCIPLESHIP**

Opening Prayer was led by Gordon Arsenoff

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Rev. Joanna welcomed new members Eleanor Forbes (Outreach Liaison), Debra Lowe (Personnel), and Jonathan Gloster (Junior Warden).

**ELECTION OF VESTRY CLERK AND TREASURER**

Gordon Arsenoff nominated John Ager for the position of Treasurer. The nomination was seconded by Jim Nichols and carried with unanimous consent.

Mark McMahon nominated Gordon Arsenoff for the position of Clerk of the Vestry. The nomination was seconded by Debra Lowe and carried with unanimous consent.

**STEWARDSHIP**

**Renewal Works**

The findings and recommendations from the parish Renewal Works reports were outlined at the Parish Annual Meeting. Our central focus will be spiritual growth as a parish. Some ideas are already underway.

1. Embedding scripture in all parish meetings and gatherings.
2. Adding items to the liturgy and bulletins, and providing devotionals for everyone to take home.
3. A Parish retreat will be held in March
4. Create spiritual relationships within the parish

**Rector's COLA & Budget Adjustment**

While completing the 2024 Clergy Compensation Report, it was discovered that the Rector's Cost of Living

Adjustment has been miscalculated for her housing allowance for 2022-2024. In consultation with the Clergy Compensation Board, Mark McMahon and John Ager have determined that there are monies due to the Rector as outlined in the resolution included as part of these minutes.

Jonathan Gloster moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Gordon Arsenoff. Adoption of the resolution was approved unanimously without questions.

## **PROPERTY**

### **REPORT**

#### **Church**

##### **Boilers**

A City water main broke causing 2 boilers shut down (The Low Water Cut-off Valves failed on both boilers). Jim Nichols referred to the replacement proposal from REM Heating where the Vestry previously approved \$40,000 to move forward with the work. After approval, REM Heating contacted Jim Nichols as there were delays in securing the equipment. As it would be possible to procure the equipment from New England, the Vestry was asked to approve an additional \$3,000.00 to cover the cost of REM Heating's travel back and forth to New England. The new equipment should be installed by early Lent. It is possible that Church Insurance will cover a portion of the costs. Mark McMahon moved to approve the additional cost, seconded by Jonathan Gloster. The motion was carried without objection. Mark acknowledged Jim's Herculean efforts in moving the project forward.

##### **4<sup>th</sup> Century Task Force**

After meetings and discussion with Trinity Church, Wall St., Jim Nichols announced that we are about to launch the discernment process discussed at the annual meeting, with a suggested kick-off date of February 23. We will focus on discernment in several areas: reinforcing Renewal Works objectives; evaluating music and arts; focus on our buildings looking critically what kind of shape they're in, what's needed and what's not needed and how to incorporate ideas on their use; engagement with the community or what is needed in community. This is a 20-year plan to present a clear vision to Trinity Wall St. who will provide cost sharing.

## **OUTREACH**

### **Immigration in the Church**

Rev. Joanna, Princess Zoe Godwin, Rev. Daphne Roberts, and Catherine Ambos, attended an immigration Q&A last week. They found the session informative and useful. Rev. Joanna has informed staff on proper legal procedures to deal with ICE agents Posters describing individual rights will be displayed around the building, as well as wallet-sized cards containing the same.

## **REGULAR BUSINESS**

### **Acceptance of the January 14, 2024 meeting minutes**

Mark McMahon moved to accept the minutes of the December 8, 2024 meeting. Gordon Arsenoff seconded. The motion carried without objection by the majority of those eligible to vote. Debra Lowe, Eleanor Foster, and Jonathan Gloster abstained.

### **Financial Report**

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

### **Topics on the Minds of the Vestry**

- Mark McMahon reported a Google file has been created and completed for the 2023-2024 audit.
- Mark thanked everyone for their cooperation in accommodating moving services to the Ross Room during the boiler disaster.

### **Key Topics**

- New Vestry members, Jonathan Gloster - People's Warden, Eleanor Forbes - Outreach coordinator and Debra Lowe - Personnel were welcomed. John Ager was reelected Treasurer and Gordon Arsenoff was reelected Clerk of the Vestry.
- Jim Nichols updated the Vestry on the boiler replacements and the Vestry passed a resolution authorizing the purchase of two new boiler units, which with God's help, will be in place prior to Lent.
- A discussion was held on Immigration and how it may affect employees and tenants of Christ Church. Available resources were reviewed and made available to the Vestry.

Closing prayer was led by Gordon Arsenoff.

The meeting was adjourned by Rev. Hollis at 8:52PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Terry Ann Schwarz*  
Recording Secretary