

St. James' Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting (Hybrid)

April 22, 2025

**Present:** The Rev. Pilar Padron Parnell, Senior Warden Doug Smith, Junior Warden John Devins, Marie Hughes, Carol Murphy, Kris Perkins, Judy Holmes, David O'Neill, Beckie Hidy, John Buterbaugh and Tara Covert.

**On Zoom:** Nicole Bova

**Absent:** Kathy Ploufe was absent and Bishop DeDe Duncan-Probe was unable to connect by Zoom to join the meeting.

**6:00 PM: Call to Order**

**Opening Prayer:** Mother Pilar

**An agenda was sent out to the Vestry, prior to the meeting, with supporting documents.**

**Quick Action Items:**

1. **March Minutes:** The Vestry reviewed the minutes and found one minor error. Carol Murphy made a motion to approve the minutes with one minor correction; David O'Neill seconded; 10 Vestry members approved; 1 Vestry member abstained.

**Reports**

**1. Treasurer's Report:**

**A. March Financials:** Due to the early meeting date this month, Nicole Bova only reviewed the Balance Report, YTD Budget and Giving Report with Vestry members. Pledges have increased, our cash flow is good and we are receiving insurance payments from Rev. Scott Parnell's church in Binghamton. The unpledged large donation has been received and the \$2,500 towards our Diocesan Pledge has been sent to the Diocese. Other financial reports will be emailed to Vestry members to review when available. Marie Hughes made a motion to approve the reports that were presented; Judy Holmes seconded; Vestry approved.

**2. Senior Warden's Report:**

- A.** Two more dead trees have been taken down with neighbor's approval.
- B.** Fencing has been completed and gates will be kept locked. We have 6 keys to the gate: 1 for the Parnell family, 1 for Senior Warden Doug Smith, 1 for Junior Warden John Devins, 1 for Laura Posecznick and 2 for the church office.
- C.** Dock installation is on hold, awaiting receipt of 16 x16 foot platform.

**3. Junior Warden's Report:**

- A.** Warden John Devins thanked Laura Posecznick, David and Helen Oneill and their granddaughters for hosting a successful, fun, Easter Egg Hunt.
- B.** Warden John Devins congratulated Racial Justice & Reconciliation Commission on the successful showing of the movie "Undivide Us".

**Old Business:**

1. **Jumble Sale:** Beckie Hidy presented the Vestry with Jumble Sale meeting notes and volunteer assignments. Set-up for the event starts July 27<sup>th</sup>. Beckie will put set-up times on Parish calendar. Blue Birds and yoga classes will need to be contacted to change space used that day.
2. **Rectory Update:** Junior Warden John Devins reported that there have been a lot of stress and frustration with the restoration process of the Rectory. In discussion with Bishop DeDe Duncan-Probe and Diocesan Legal Counsel, St. James' was assured that Church Insurance will pay all restoration costs and will also pay for a 12 month housing contract for the Parnell family. Church Insurance will now drive the process of renovation and Martha Berry, Esq. Vice Chancellor for the Episcopal Diocese of CNY will communicate with Church Insurance on our behalf. This arrangement will greatly reduce the stress and burden on the St. James' staff. As St. James' moves forward Warden Doug Smith will peruse housing for the Parnell family and Junior Warden John Devins will work with contractors and communication with Martha Berry.

**New Business:**

**1. Hallway to Organ Pipe Room:** Plaster has fallen off the wall in the hallway leading to the organ pipe room. Senior Warden Doug Smith will have an assessment done and obtain estimates for repair.

**Rector's Report:**

- 1. Fall Service Schedule:** Mother Pilar will be meeting next week with Justin Oei and with the band, on May 4<sup>th</sup>, to discuss possible time changes for services in the fall.
- 2. Summer Service Schedule:** Service will be held at 7:30 and 10:00 on Sundays. The 10:00 service will start being held outside on June 22<sup>nd</sup> and will alternate between service styles each Sunday.
- 3. Director of Children's, Youth and Family Ministries:** The job description for this position has been posted.
- 4. Ministry Recognition:** The Month of May will focus on Creation Care and inclusion of children in the service.
- 5. The Thrift Shop's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary in son June 8<sup>th</sup>.**
- 6. The Outreach Committee has been expanded to include a member from all outreach projects. They will meet on May 11<sup>th</sup>.**
- 7. Junior Warden John Devins has been received into the Episcopal Church. Congratulations!**

**The meeting ended with the praying of the Compline.**

The meeting ended at 8:00 PM.

**Next Meeting:** 5/27/25 at 6PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Bethany Quattrociocchi, Clerk