

Not yet officially approved – to be presented at the annual meeting in 2016

Annual Meeting Sunday, February 1, 2015
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church Cohasset, MA

Attendees:

The Rev. Margot Critchfield, *Rector*, Kathryn Earle, *Sr. Warden*, Kris Broe, *Jr. Warden*
Rick Sears, *Treasurer*, Ginny Wieland, *Asst. Treasurer*
Vestrypersons: Keith Conforti (*substitute clerk*), Eric Eisenhauer, Nancy St. John, Christine Woodward,
Ann Musto, Rich Ofsthun, Greg Wallingford

Approximately 75 members of the congregation in attendance

Meeting opened at 11:05 am by Rev. Margot

Reading of the warrant, by acting clerk Keith Conforti

The minutes from the 2014 meeting were approved unanimously.

Rector's Report: Margot recapped her rector's report from the printed annual report. Acknowledges that our parish is experiencing challenges, but feels these experiences have strengthened us. Reported 14 baptisms in 2014. Welcomed Julia Muller to our staff. Thanked Sue McHugh and Lauren Whittaker for the tremendous efforts with VBS. Thanked the parish for support with the Umana Academy, B-SAFE program, and clothing drive. Closed thanking Kathryn Earle, Kris Broe and the Vestry for their efforts and hard work throughout the coaching process with the Rev. Sam Rodman. The balance of Margot's report closely mirrored her written report.

Warden's Report: Kathryn Earle thanked the congregation for the ongoing support and involvement with our parish. Thanked the Vestry for all the extra time and work put in this past year. And thanked everyone for their effort in taking part in the process that resulted in hiring Julia Muller. Kathryn expressed appreciation for the experience working with the Rev. Sam Rodman. She is looking forward to ongoing work with the new Vestry. Thanked Rick Sears for his very hard work with this year's stewardship campaign: we raised \$367,000, which was very good, but lost 31 pledgers for a total of 106 despite gaining 9 new pledgers, which is a concern. Kathryn urged the parish to thank Vestry members for the challenging work of the past year that is still ongoing, and assured the parish that we will work to an outcome. Closed by inviting anyone from the congregation to offer input, or contact us with suggestions.

Director of Music Ministries Report: John Whiteside thanked the parish for another good year with our music programs, but expressed sadness over Mary Kennedy's continued battle with cancer and our need to rely on interim carillonners. He encouraged anyone with an interest in the carillon to pursue it and learn to play. Mary Kennedy learned to play in the same way. Closed by asking us to keep Mary in our prayers. Margot concurred and informed us that Kris Broe's daughter, Courtney, has begun to learn the carillon.

Other speakers: At this time, lay leaders were asked to speak on other matters in the annual report:

- Bill Viscomi spoke about his joy and learning experience as our outreach chair. He thanked the parish for being supportive and interested in projects, particularly the current issues with the Long Island Homeless Shelter.
- Ann Musto spoke about her positive experience with Bible Study and the joy in getting to know folks better. She'd like to have another program this fall.

Margot then opened the floor to a question and answer format. There were no questions from the approximately 75 attendees.

Treasurers' Report: Rick Sears spoke with the highest regard for Ginny Wieland's amazing work and commitment to our parish and whole-heartedly thanked her. He then went into a recap of our financial reports. Spoke of the issues that we must dig deeper to see and understand: about 6 people are pledging disproportionately to support the budget and it is very risky ground. He spoke of his concern with people who "vote with their wallets" and that the trend in giving shows some level of dissatisfaction—with the church, the diocese, the rector. Is this an issue that can be explored/resolved with the help of the Rev. Sam Rodman? He then opened the floor to questions. There were no questions from the attendees.

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Rector's Thanks: Rev. Margot urged us all to thank ourselves for the great work and involvement in the parish. Among those deserving special thanks: to Mimi Svenning and Stephanie Sears for bringing Episcopal City Tutoring to Cohasset; to Sue McHugh for VBS; to Ann Musto, Sam Pease and Sandy Emler for Bible Study groups; to Jack Wieland for his steady leadership of the Finance Committee that he is stepping down from in 2015; to Sandy Emler for ALL of her years of varied and important volunteer work as she steps back from action; to Bob Jackson and Stu Ivimey for their work on the pending AT&T contract (she presented each with a gift); and to Bob Jackson for taking on leadership of the Finance Committee as new chair.

Nominating Committee: Kris Broe thanked all members of the committee (Tom Lutzy, Christine Woodward, Dick Avery, Rev. Margot Critchfield) for their hard work this year. She presented the new slate:

Junior Warden: Jeff Antos (two year term)
Clerk: Ed Mosher (one year term)
Treasurer: Rick Sears (one year term)
Assistant Treasurer: Ginny Wieland (one year term)

Vestrypersons:

Liliane Wenner (two year term – finishing tenure of Chris Wolfington)
Liz Woodard (three year term)
Tim Reynolds (three year term)

Diocesan delegates: Robin Lualdi, Jack Wieland (another year)
Deanery delegates: Kris Broe, Tom Lutzy (another year)

The motion was introduced, seconded, and voted unanimously in favor to applause.

Kris closed by thanking the outgoing vestry members: Nancy St. John, Christine Woodward, Eric Eisenhauer, and Liam McHugh for their time and service to our parish.

Rev. Margot opened the floor one last time to questions. There were no questions from the attendees.

Closed with prayer at 11:45 am, and meeting adjourned after 40 minutes.

Respectfully submitted, Keith Conforti