



Minutes of the Meeting of the Vestry - January 13, 2026 Saint Barnabas's Great Hall, 91 Main St., Falmouth MA

ATTENDEES: Neill Bogan, Steve Handy, Richard Jackmauh (virtual), Ambrose Jearld, Molly Kelleher, George Liles, Gavin Mulligan, David Rider, Louise Prussack, Rick Whitmyre (virtual),

Absent: Kirstin Meyer-Kaiser, Lucy Young

Attending by Invitation: Leigh-Ellen Ferreira (Sunflower Academy); and Ted Gale, Kate Kristenson, Karl Loos, Phoebe Office – nominees for 2026 vestry and warden positions.

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 by Warden George Liles

- Opening prayer – # 28 from BCP

- Shared reading of the Saint Barnabas's Covenant by all present.

Treasurer's Report by Rick Whitmyre (highlights attached) – Treasurer reported we finish 2025 in strong financial shape, with income for 2025 exceeding expenses and a healthy cash-on-hand situation. The Treasurer and Finance Committee presented a 2026 budget that calls for staff salary increases (3%), a 5% increase in third-party expenses, a 5% draw from investments, and a surplus of \$20,000 income over expenses. Steve handy moved that the vestry accept the proposed budget. The motion passed unanimously.

December Minutes – Louise Prussack moved that we accept the minutes submitted by Acting Clerk Lucy Young. Steve Handy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Sunflower Academy – Leigh-Ellen Ferreira, owner of the Sunflower Academy, gave an update on the academy. The state has licensed the academy for as many as 20 students, age two years nine months through five years. The academy currently has 3 staff (plus Leigh-Ellen) in two classrooms and will have 11 students beginning in February. Leigh-Ellen reported that the academy is well served by the space and she hopes to run a summer program and to run another school year program beginning in September. The current lease expires this summer. We agreed to begin negotiations on a new lease in March.

Interim Priest's Report – Rev. David Rider reported on plans for the Annual Meeting January 25, which will have a somewhat different format and will not include Eucharist. There will be discussions at tables in which parishioners will be asked to prioritize five potential foci for Saint Barnabas's in 2026 and beyond.

He reported on an in-progress garden work and changes in the interior of the chapel, anticipating an increased use of the chapel for a variety of functions. David and a team led by Karl Loos are planning two fund-raising initiatives – a capital campaign and a planned giving campaign. Those will be discussed in detail in the vestry annual retreat in February or March.

The following Resolution was presented as a motion (made by Molly Kelleher), seconded by Richard Jackmauh, and passed unanimously by all present vestry members and officers:

Vestry Resolution

The Vestry authorizes the chapel renovation as described above, thanks the ECW for dedicating its remaining funds to the chapel and chapel garden projects, and advances an additional \$15,000 from operating funds to install chapel flooring with the expectation of reimbursement from incoming restricted gifts in 2026. Other renovations identified above will occur as additional restricted gifts are received.

There was some discussion of the vestry's 2024 decision to allocate 15% from gifts and grants for administrative support ('indirect' or 'overhead'). Several vestry members and the interim priest questioned the wisdom of that decision; as a vestry decision, it can be reversed by the vestry. The topic will be on the February vestry meeting agenda, allowing time to study the issue.

David reported that Canon Kelly O'Connell will visit January 31/February 1 and will preach and meet with the vestry post-worship.

Stewardship Report – Neill Bogan and Richard Jackmauh reported that the 2025 stewardship campaign to-date has yielded 101 pledges totaling \$255,000. The total exceeds the goal of a 15% increase over 2025 pledges. We expect a few more pledges and in February we will look at the results to understand better the picture in regard to new pledges, pledgers departing, levels of giving (mean and median).

Property Ministry Report – Steve Handy reported on conversations with a Wi-Fi company (Gateway) that wants to lease a 20ft x 20 parcel to build a small structure to house some electronic fiber optic distribution equipment. They seek a 25-year lease and are prepared to pay a lease that amounts to \$10,400 annually. Steve and Karl Loos have looked at the lease contract and think it is a good opportunity. The vestry voted in December to empower Steve and the Property Committee to work with Gateway to explore the idea. The vestry now urges Steve to continue the discussion, with the understanding we will engage an attorney to review the lease.

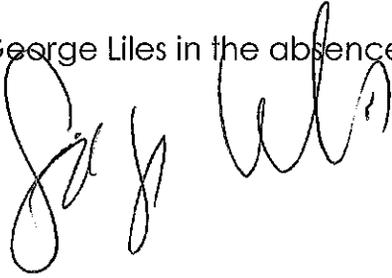
The company that removed the solar panels preparatory to roof repairs noted that one of the inverters is not working. Steve will work with the company (Cotuit Solar) to learn what caused the inverter failure and what the fix will be.

Vestry Remarks – this is the last meeting for Molly, Ambrose, and Gavin. The interim priest, the warden (Liles) and the remaining vestry thanked the departing members for their faithful service.

Warden Remarks – Warden Liles raised the issue of the 2026 Drum Majors event and asked vestry members to review the founding documents and give some thought to an appropriate 2026 event, the planning of which will be on the February vestry agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50

Minutes by George Liles in the absence of the acting clerk

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George Liles". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G" and "L".

