

**Old West Church Association  
Annual Meeting Minutes  
October 13, 2019**

Attendees: Rod Buck, Brian Clark, Donna Fitch, Mack Gardner-Morse, Richard Maizell, Barbara McAndrew, David Schutz.

President Barbara McAndrew called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm. Donna Fitch made a motion to approve the minutes of the 2018 OWCA Annual Meeting. Brian Clark seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Barbara expressed sadness over the community's loss of Ernie Parrish, a member of the church's Building Committee, and expressed gratitude for his work recommending and organizing subcontractors for the steeple restoration. Ernie created the louvres on the steeple and this is a lasting memory of him. David and Kathy Morse have sold their home next to the church, and Barbara expressed gratitude for all they have shared over the years in support of the church. This past year the OWCA's bylaws were rewritten, with Richard Maizell leading the update; the new bylaws were approved at a special meeting this past summer.

Major projects this year were the steeple restoration and the painting of the church; the bell was repaired and now rings. A report was prepared for the matching grant from the State of Vermont Division of Historic Preservation in the amount of \$20,000 to support the steeple repair. In February, Jan Lewandoski led a talk and slide show at the Maple Corner Community Center to share his process and thoughts about the steeple project. The event was well attended. Thank you to Richard Maizell, Vice President, for maintaining the OWCA's web site.

The new bylaws increase the number of trustees to five members. Nick Emlen has agreed to be the nominating chair. Anyone who would like to be on the board of trustees should contact Nick. A special meeting will be held to vote on the person for this position.

Work under consideration for the next year include association database; archives; building maintenance plan; support of the OWC cemetery maintenance; continuing to improve investments; planning for the church's 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Donna Fitch, Treasurer, reported FY2019 donations totaled \$31,296.45. The last shares of MFS Funds were redeemed and the money deposited to Vanguard Funds. Grant reimbursement of \$20,000 was received from the VT Division for Historic Preservation. Expenses totaled \$88,889.66 with \$84,853.75 of that going to the steeple repair. As of June 30, 2019, cash and investments totaled \$121,849.32.

Rod Buck, OWC Finance Committee, suggested reviewing the church's assets and investments now that the steeple repair and painting of the church is complete. The goal is to establish operating funds vs. endowment funds.

Rod made a motion to accept the annual report. Richard seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Rod made a motion to nominate the current trustees as a slate. David Schutz seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

There was discussion about the new trustee position (Correspondence Secretary). The position will be advertised, names will be solicited and the names of interested people will be given to Nick. A special meeting will be held to vote on the person for this position.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Fitch, Treasurer OWCA