

Vestry Minutes

June 28, 2022

6:00 PM Prayers and Holy Communion at the altar

6:30 PM Church Library and ZOOM

Present: Rev. Lisa Musser, Stewart Abbot, Lisa Blank, Bob Brunswig, Margaret Grant, Andy Kitchell, Linda Springer, Dorothy Sullivan and Katie Kinney (Zoom).

Absent: Joe Butler, Jim DeMesserman, Judy Gregory and Mark Johnson.

Guests: Clifford Clift and Barbara Maxfield on Zoom.

Meeting called to order at 6:37.

Prayer Meditation -Lisa Blank reflected on the church coming out of the darkness of Covid and read her interpretation of Psalm 126. "God has done great things for us. There are promises and hope in the future."

Prayer – Rev. Lisa read a prayer from the Dean of St. John’s Cathedral in response to the tragedy in Texas. Katie led the vestry in the Lord’s Prayer.

Additions to the agenda

1. Wee School
2. Wreaths Across America
3. Praise to Rev. Lisa for the Sunday Family Service

Approve consent agenda

A motion to approve the May 28, 2022 minutes and the May Financial Report was made by Bob and approved by Margaret. The motion was passed.

Business

A vestry clerk is still needed. Erin Bley has expressed interest and may come next month. Margaret Grant volunteered to take minutes at the July meeting.

Background checks are needed for many different positions in the church. A class is online for those in the vestry that missed the safety course. Rev. Lisa is working on getting everyone up to date.

Wee Love has accepted the contact for summer and school year classes.

Discussion

All the organ pipes are here and being put into place. The final voicing of the pipes is expected to be finished by July 3. It was suggested that we might put information our organ and its restoration in the Tribune. Bob will look into that issue. Joseph Rotella, restorer, is writing an article on our organ and its restoration for a national organ publication.

The diocese committee met and requested a contract regarding the water rights the church is planning to sell. Carlos Vallez will buy the water rights for \$170,000. Stewart and Tom Grant, lawyer, will meet and draw up the contract to be presented in August to the diocese committee.

Linda discussed a way to display the seven Christmas wreaths given to the church in December from Wreaths Around the World. We will display them on the posts on the south side of the church. The vestry voted to approve drilling into the mortar between bricks for hooks to hang these wreaths.

A motion was made by Bob and seconded by Linda to post the vestry monthly minutes within two weeks of the meeting. This means the minutes will be sent to the vestry for their approval online as soon as possible. The motion passed.

Rev. Lisa and Stewart met with Day Spring regarding their activity schedule in the fall and the parking of the Day Spring cars in the church parking. Two issues arose. First, do we charge for parking in the church area? It was mentioned that at one time there was parking in exchange for mowing. (Cost of mowing is \$500.) Linda suggested we do not charge. Another suggestion was to charge each car as a fund raising concession perhaps for the Youth Group. Stewart will follow up with Weston from DaySpring.

The second issue is wear and tear on the parking lot. Katie mentioned that the parking lot needs to be refurbished. In order to just fill in the cracks, \$50,000 would be needed. A new parking lot would be around \$150,000. Andy mentioned that the Chamber Orchestra uses our lot and doesn't pay. Rev. Lisa reminded us the Orchestra gives us a \$1,000.00 check each year. No decisions were made on the parking lot use.

The article "Care with the Cure of Souls by Rev. Jared C. Cramer was sent to members of the vestry for discussion. The article was a discussion of a survey sent to nonchurched individuals in the Grand Haven, Maine area. The survey asked the reader to rate 14 items which would be important to someone when choosing a faith community. The top item was that the church be an "Authentic Community". This means the church will believe in and be an advocate for diversity, equity, and inclusion. It means to be a church community that truly accepts all people and is open to all. Jim DeMersseman had asked that we consider two points. The first is what the congregation believes with regard to this issue; and, secondly, what actions and outreach we could take to become more "authentic community. The vestry started a discussion as to how we could move forward as an authentic community. This will be considered again in the future. The Bishop sent yard signs which speaks to acceptance of all people.

Reports

Treasurer -Katie discussed the Treasurer's Report. She reported finances are better and expenses are down. However, there is a need for additional funds. At the end of May, there was a \$57,000 deficit.

Senior Warden – No report.

Junior Warden - Stewart reported for Mark that the thermostats were working. There was a leak in the sprinkling system that has been repaired.

Rector – Rev. Lisa reported that three new households are coming to church. Sabina has an up-to-date directory which can be put on a smartphone. She will also print a copy. She posted a lovely tribute on Facebook regarding her experiences when she came to Trinity and started her job. Rev. Lisa is working on new classes for the

Fall. There have been changes in the liturgy. Sunday evening church will continue the last Sundays in July and August. Both Margaret and Andy noted how good the service was on last Sunday and that the children enjoyed having a part in the service.

Zoom Guest Input – Clifford Clift asked what is the future of the property we own to the south of the church. Bob had mentioned future plans were being discussed but no definite plans as yet. Stewart advised that this vision process likely will get underway in the Fall. We hope that many parishioners, especially newer members, will participate in this process. Certainly, no large decisions will be made without Parish input.

Closing – Stewart read the following poem, “The Cow”, by Ogden Nash. “The cow is of the bovine ilk; one end is moo, the other, milk.” Stewart noted that today is St. Irenaeus of Lyons day. He was a Greek bishop noted for his role in guiding and expanding Christian communities in France. Stewart then closed with prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy Sullivan, Vestry

FUTURE MEETINGS

Finance Meeting

Vestry Meeting – July 26, 2022