

Trinity Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes in-person and via Zoom
November 18, 2021

Present: Mother Sarah Ginolfi, Priest in Charge, Fern Fryer, Sr. Warden, Jay Slenker, Jr. Warden, Elizabeth Bushey, Kathy Hall, Rich Jones, Dave Thurmer, and Holly Webb (via zoom)
Absent: Melissa Alarie, and Krey Kellington

I. Call to Order: Mother Sarah called the meeting to order at 5:07PM with a prayer for joy in God's creation.

II. Approval of October minutes: Kathy made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Fern. There being no discussion, a vote was called with unanimous approval and no abstentions.

III. Treasurer's Report: Jay made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Reports, seconded by Dave.

1. Rich questioned why several categories are over budget such as liturgical expenses and maintenance. Building fund expenses were also questioned. Sarah will talk to John regarding the reasons for increased Liturgical expenses and Linda Fey regarding Building fund expenditures.

2. Sarah recommended and Jay agreed that the Treasurer's Report should have separate line items for Professional expenses. The Finance committee should identify specific categories identified in Letter of Agreement (LOA) with Sarah.

3. A vote to accept the motion was called with unanimous approval and no abstentions.

items to be added to the agenda: Clergy Compensation

IV. Priest-in-Charge Report: Sarah is very appreciative for her three days off.

1. Sarah noted that the Diocesan annual recommended compensation schedule for clergy has been published. She does not know if there are discrepancies between her LOA and the Diocesan recommendations. A \$500.00 annual pay increase is recommended by the Dioceses in addition to an annual 2.5 % COLA increase. Jay and Sarah will review Sarah's LOA for compliance and report recommendations back to the Vestry. If there are discrepancies that would be something she would work to reconcile in the future with the Vestry.

2. Attendance at Sunday services has increased through this Fall. Sarah keeps a record of the attendees at the conclusion of each Sunday service including the live-stream attendees. She noted that many people are watching the recorded Sunday services after the live stream service. She is not sure how those persons can or should be recorded. Rich noted that it would be helpful if the attendance numbers including those that watch the recording after the service were reported in the annual Parochial Report.

V. New Business

A. Stewardship Campaign Update:

1. Pledges are currently at \$83,000.00 with an additional \$4,000.00 in matching funds. The pledges to date come from 31 pledging units. Based on past experience more pledges are expected. The average annual pledge amount has increased and there are 5 new pledge units. Sarah notes the Stewardship Campaign is doing well. The congregation is showing that it is choosing Hope over Fear.

2. Fern noted that a transfer of \$5,000.00 should be made from the Unit Fund to the Building Fund

before the end of the year. Sarah noted she is not certain how much needs to be transferred because Trinity has applied for a grant to help cover the costs for the installation of the air filters. The Dioceses may also have financial assistance for covid-19 related expenses. Sarah will email the Vestry requesting an on line motion and vote to transfer funds when she confirms the amount.

B. Pauli Textiles Clothing Drop: Is an organization that picks up clothes and re-sells them.

Sarah advised that IHM had a clothing shed contract with Pauli Textiles but that it is now ended.

She would like Trinity to consider setting up a clothing shed by the Church. Pauli Textiles pays for the collected clothes by the pound. IHM was paid approximately \$150.00 a month. Jay is concerned about liability as the collection shed is made of wood and could be a risk for fire. Holly will email a picture of the shed still located at IHM to the Vestry so they can have an idea of the what the clothing collection shed looks like. Kathy and Jay noted the Vestry is interested in the idea but would like to hear the details of the proposal.

VI. Old Business:

A. Air Filters Update: The Vestry thanks Rich for installing the air-filters and ventilators. Rich noted that the ventilators will be run only on Sunday mornings.

B. Organ Repairs Update: Currently not all of the pipes can be used. The repairs to the bellows are estimated at \$4,000.00. The estimated time for repair is two weeks. A claim has been submitted to the insurance company and the insurance adjuster has been to Trinity and looked at the problem. The Vestry would like the repairs to be completed before Christmas. Rich recommended that Peter start the repairs as soon as he can. Fern will check with the Adjuster to make sure starting repairs will not interfere with the claims process. Rich questioned whether the Property Fund could be used to cover the cost of repairs not covered by insurance. In the past, the Property Fund has only been used for "horizontal expenses". It was noted that the Vestry could consider authorizing using the Property Fund or the Youth Fund for organ repair .

C. Parking Lot lease: The new lease is signed. It is a three year lease. The Peoples United Bank will pay \$1,100.00 monthly for their use of the parking lot.

D. Advent/Christmas Update/Planning: Sarah outlined a time schedule for Christmas.

1. She will conduct a service Christmas Day but not the service on December 26th.
2. Sunday the 26th will be Morning Prayer and a hymn sing with John.
3. The schedule for the Christmas Eve Service is being finalized.
4. Wendy, Dot, and the florist will be putting up the decorations in the Church.
5. Jay requested that he be notified before the crèche is set up.

E. Vestry Discernment: Will be decided in December.

F. Energy Committee Update: No updates.

VII: December tasks:

A. Stewardship: Goals are currently being met.

B. Budget Review: The Finance Committee will send a budget to the Vestry for review this December in preparation for next year's annual budget and meeting in January 2022.

C. Sock Drive: Has been successful and the socks are still coming in.

Keep on radar:

1. Sarah wants to begin an "invite, welcome, and connect" program to encourage people to come and join Trinity.

2. A date for Mutual Ministry Review by the Vestry and Dioceses should be scheduled before the next Vestry meeting . In the event the Dioceses is unable to participate the Vestry will complete the review on its own.

Motion to adjourn at 6:40PM.

Next Vestry meeting December 16th 2021.

Respectfully Submitted, Marc Brierre