

Trinity Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting Minutes
April 20, 2023

Present: Mother Sarah Ginolfi, Priest in Charge; Holly Webb, Sr. Warden, via zoom; Rich Jones, Jr. Warden; Melissa Alarie, Elizabeth Bushey, via zoom; Lisa Frankel-Boerner, Judy Hall, Kathy Hall, Rich Jones, David Thurmer, Cassi Whitcomb

Absent: Jay Slenker

I. Call to Order: Mother Sarah called the meeting to order with a prayer at 5:00PM.

II. Approval of March minutes: Rich made a motion to accept the March minutes; Dave seconded; after discussion regarding conserving energy and keeping fuel costs down, a vote on the motion was called with unanimous acceptance no abstentions.

III. Treasurer's Reports for March: Dave made a motion to accept the March reports; Melissa seconded. After discussion, a vote on the motion was called with unanimous acceptance, no abstentions.

IV. Priest-in-Charge Report: Motion by Lisa to go into executive session at 5:30pm, seconded by Dave; Motion by Judy to go out of executive session at 5:40pm seconded by Melissa.

V. New Business

A. Justin Thomas Mem Park fundraiser: Sarah would like the Vestry to approve the purchase of a brick in support of the Justin Thomas Memorial Park. Holly made a motion for Trinity to purchase a 12x12 brick for \$250.00 to support the Justin Thomas Memorial Park; Lisa seconded. After discussion regarding whether the Outreach and Evangelism Fund or Youth Fund would be used for payment a vote was called with unanimous acceptance to approve the funds using the Youth Fund. Sarah and Holly will work on what to have written on the brick.

B. Repaving the parking lot: Rich will get an estimate from Bendig to repave portions of the parking lot. He will also research where to place lights in the lot.

C. Spring clean up day: Dates need to be scheduled to clean up the Memorial Garden and for up-keep at the Rectory. Sarah recommends the scheduled dates should be in June.

D. Sacred Stories/Spaces next steps: Sarah has received many positive responses to the book and Mark's visit. Approximately 40 people stayed for the Potluck after the presentation. People from outside Trinity, who heard about Mark through Project Vision also attended. Some ideas Sarah had are:

1. to start having welcome dinners with story sharing
2. to develop a procedure to better welcome newcomers to coffee hour
3. and to do this in an open and welcoming way to all families and people.

E. Generating Insights for Mission innovation: The Vestry discussed ways we could grow our efforts of inclusion at Trinity Church. Since June is Pride Month and the Rutland Pride Center is preparing for Rutland's first Pride Festival (June 17th), the Vestry encouraged us to find a meaningful way to add our voice and "be the church" amid the Pride festivities. We discussed ideas like helping to sponsor the event; hosting a booth in partnership with youth organization, Come Alive Outside; inviting the community over for lawn games; placing two I <3 Rutland signs on our grounds; and hosting an interfaith pride service with other area community partners.

1. Rich suggested that the Outreach and Evangelism Team could help plan specific recommendations.

Sarah referenced materials from Virginia Theological Seminary's "Try Tank" which is in the Vestry materials as Appendix A as a guide for how to go about trying something new.

2. The Vestry discussed the importance of assuring the parish that placing the I <3 Rutland signs up would not set a precedent for other signs beyond our welcome banner to go on our grounds. All agreed to this practice and all supported our participation in the Rutland community-wide declaration of inclusion.

F. Fundraising ideas: A member of the congregation has suggested Trinity have a "Blessing of the Bikes" event as a fundraiser. There are still magnets available for a donation. Fundraising plans tabled to the next Vestry meeting.

VI. Old Business

A. Organ Project update: Rich and Dana are working on the next phases of organ repair. The current schedule has been reviewed by two organ repair/maintenance individuals. Dana is researching and preparing options for the next phases for Trinity's organ repair and maintenance. The repair of the organ pipes sent to David Moore has been completed for approximately \$350.00. They should be picked up next week in Pomfret.

B. Buildings and Grounds:

a. West Street Doors can be repaired, some parts will have to be replaced. The estimated cost is \$300.00.

b. Lighting was already covered above during Repaving Parking Lot.

c. Sound System, Holly's son, Wyatt, is now working with us to secure a bid to update our sound system. Sarah has researched systems with five different companies. She will continue to work to get an estimate (five different companies have come in to put together a bid. We have not heard back from any of them yet despite repeated follow-ups over the past year.)

VII. April Tasks

A. The Rummage sale is ready to go.

B. The Patio room of the rectory has wind damage and needs to be repaired. Rich will schedule a repair date after the injury to his foot has healed.

Conclusion: Adjourn at 6:55PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marc Brierre