

Trinity Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes in-person and via Zoom
October 20, 2022

Present in person: Mother Sarah Ginolfi, Priest in Charge, Fern Fryer, Sr. Warden, Jay Slenker, Jr. Warden, Rich Jones, Dave Thurmer, and Holly Webb

Present via zoom: Melissa Alarie, Lisa Frankel Boerner, Elizabeth Bushey, and Kathy Hall

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

II. Approval of September minutes: Jay made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Dave.

Kathy noted that she abstained on the vote to accept page one of the "From the Ground Up" bid to clean and improve the Memorial Garden and the minutes were corrected. After further discussion regarding better access to the lectern; a vote was called with unanimous approval and no abstentions.

III. Treasurer's September Reports: Fern made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Reports including the 3rd quarter Unit Fund Statements and the Women of Trinity Fund , seconded by Jay.

A vote on the motion was called with unanimous approval and no abstentions.

IV. Priest-in-Charge Report:

1. Sarah gave a review of the Diocesan Convention. Melissa summarized the high lights she took from the convention. That the Episcopal Church has changed over the years, especially since Covid-19. That Episcopalians should look for what gives us life and what takes away life and strive to talk about and support what gives us life.

2.Sarah would like Trinity to use the "Try Tank" process to research what is most beneficial for a church or community and use the minimal viable prototype to accomplish those identified goals.

3. Sarah would like the Vestry to support her in limiting her involvement in future Diocesan projects and committees. She is currently on the Diocesan Standing Committee which has expanded its responsibilities. This will involve an increased time commitment from her.

No items added to the Agenda

V. New Business

A. Parking Lot:

1. Rich is in contact with the Peoples Bank regarding new parking signs for the parking lot.

2.The Bank will be re-surfacing their portion of the lot. Rich will request the contractor to put fill in the pot-holes on the Trinity side of the lot while they are re-surfacing the bank side. He will find out when the parking lot will be worked on. If the Bank repair is not scheduled then Trinity should find a contractor to repair the pot holes on Trinity's portion of the parking lot. A woman who is blind recently fell when crossing the lot. The Bank's insurance company is taking care of that matter.

3.Rich will check with the electrician to determine what cables are available to provide electricity for lights in the rear lot and what the cost of installation of a new pole and lights would be. He will also confirm whether Trinity or the Bank will provide the electricity to the rear lot.. Rich believes Trinity currently pays for the electricity used in the rear lot.

B. Fundraising Brainstorm: The Finance Committee requests the Vestry to provide an estimated fund raising projection for next year. No specific fundraising projects were noted. Selling Trinity T shirts was suggested. After further discussion, Jay made a **Motion** to tell the Finance Committee the Vestry fund

raising estimate for 2023 is \$1,200; Dave seconded. There was no further discussion. A vote was called with unanimous acceptance no abstentions.

C. Vestry Discernment: Up to two positions may need to be filled for next year. Once the number of positions to be filled is confirmed, potential candidates will be approached by members of the Vestry and Sarah. Sarah will contact the Vestry via email regarding any updates before the next Vestry meeting.

D. Fall Events Calendar:

a. Newcomer Social Planning: Sarah would like to develop a relationship with new members as soon as she can. Holly suggested that we used to introduce new members at the Church Thanksgiving dinner. Jay noted his wife would help Sarah with a social event at the Rectory. Sarah would like to do one in the Fall and the Spring. Sarah is checking with Wendy about new membership cards that are in the pews. They are being used. Volunteers for the Thanksgiving dinner. Jay, Marc, and possibly Rich or Dave will provide sliced turkey. Sarah will make an announcement in Church. Jay noted we will need a clean-up crew. There will be a Saturday set up. Holly recommended we put a sign-up sheet by the front door for volunteers to sign up.

b. Sock Drive: Will be November 19 and December 10th. A basket in the church will be set up after the Rummage Sale. Holly will contact the Rutland Herald for a PSA. Jay will call Tom Donahue. The hours for the drive will be 11:00-1:00 for November 19th and December 10th.. Sarah will reach out to the Interfaith Network so area Churches can contribute. Melissa suggested there could also be a Carol Sing during or after the sock drive.

VI. Old Business:

A. Rutland Missionary Association Update: The documents to sell have been signed and sent to the buyer. We are awaiting the buyer's response.

B. RSVP Office Space Update: Trinity will keep the large room and nursery room upstairs for possible storage or social space. RSVP can use two smaller rooms. They have not committed to Trinity and are looking for a place with better access. RSVP will get back to Sarah if they are interested. They would pay between \$600 and \$700 a month for use of the rooms for storage and office space.

C. Organ Project Update: Peter has cleared out the material he agreed to take but he is behind schedule. The boxes on the floor of Norse Hall have been removed as well. Peter's next step is to clean the organ pipes. He also needs another outlet in proximity to the organ. Rich will talk to an electrician to get that done. It is not clear when the project will be completed. Holly said that in the past members of the choir have cleaned organ pipes. She believes volunteers could be found to do that again.

D. Stewardship Campaign Update: The pledge letter needs to be completed. Sarah would like to have the letter ready for members of the Church to pick up on Sunday November 6th; saving some stamp expenses. Sarah plans to launch the campaign November 6th with a theme of "living into fearless hope".

E. Buildings and Grounds:

a. Memorial Garden Fall Clean Up Update: Jay reported that he and Brian, from "From the Ground Up" have walked the memorial garden to review what needs to be done, including weeding, seeding, clean up, and trimming trees at a cost considerably less than the original contract. Fern made a **MOTION** to spend the money from the Property Fund in the amount indicated in Brian's revised estimate just summarized by Jay for outdoor clean up, and tree work; seconded by Jay. The updated paperwork was emailed earlier by Sarah to the Vestry. After further discussion a vote was called with unanimous acceptance of the motion, no abstentions. Jay will contact Brian to begin the Fall clean up. Jay will also

ask Brian to confirm the number of stones needed to fill the outer perimeter as well as an estimate of the cost . He will also get an estimate for the cost of benches in the garden and their dimensions.

b. Library Project funding approval: Rich made a **Motion** to expend up to \$4,000.00 from the unrestricted memorial fund to carpet and paint the Library; this motion will replace the previous motion authorizing an expenditure of up to \$3,000.00 for the library; seconded by Jay. This motion was made during the September Vestry meeting. There being no further discussion a vote was called with unanimous approval of the motion.

c. Heating Expectations: Trinity needs a revised heating policy for use of all thermostats. Sarah will talk to Jim Harder to get guidance on how to control the use of the heaters. Jay thanked Rich for coordinating with Aaron on the transfer of Church maintenance.

d. Security report: Jay will work with Jim Cruise and Sarah on the purchase and installation of security cameras. Jay requests that ushers start locking Chapel and Side doors on Sundays after the service has started. Sarah suggests a lock box with keys for ushers to use after the service starts. A waiting fence repair estimates from Praticos and Middlebury Fence.

VII: October tasks: A. Halloween Parade on schedule. B. Buildings and grounds - already covered.

Motion to adjourn by Jay seconded by Fern at 7:03PM

Next Vestry meeting November 17th 2022.

Respectfully Submitted, Marc Brierre