

Trinity Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes via Zoom
April 15, 2021

Present: Sarah Ginolfi, Priest in Charge, Fern Fryer, Sr. Warden, Jay Slenker, Jr. Warden, Melissa Alarie, Kathy Hall, Rich Jones, Krey Kellington, Dave Thurmer, and Holly Webb.

Absent: Steve Sawyer

I. Call to Order: Fern Fryer called the meeting to order at 5:05PM. Sarah opened the meeting with a moment of silence for reflection and a prayer.

II. March minutes: Krey made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Dave. The misspelling of Melissa's last name was corrected. With no further discussion, vote called with unanimous approval and no abstentions.

III. Treasurer's Report: A motion was made by Krey to accept the Treasurer's Reports for both the Operating and Non Operating Funds, seconded by Melissa. Discussion that the total of 2020 pledges was less than expected. This year's budget was adjusted to reflect that decrease. Sarah advised that she has made her pledge for this year. With no further discussion a vote to accept the Treasurer's reports was called with unanimous approval and no abstentions.

IV Priest-in-Charge Report: Sarah was very appreciative of the support and attendance for all of the services during Holy Week and Easter. She thanked everyone that helped her with the services. She also thanked those that helped her move in. She shared pictures showing how she is using the different rooms in the Rectory.

1. She gave an overview of her 80% work schedule which is equivalent to 32 to 36 hours per week. Monday is her Sabbath. She plans to be present for every Sunday unless on vacation or continuing education leave. She will not give a sermon one Sunday each month. This coming Sunday, April 17th she will not give a sermon. Wendy will lead that in lieu of a sermon. For May Sarah will be giving a sermon for both Trinity Sunday and Pentecost. May 16th she would like to have two members of Trinity each tell a story or speak for approximately 3 to 4 minutes. The Sundays for which she does not give a sermon, the Vestry and Sarah will plan ahead in three to four month blocks of time. She has several ideas and is looking to the Vestry for additional guidance or suggestions. Some of her ideas include a musical presentation by John; members of Trinity sharing a story about Trinity, or a guest Priest with or without a sermon. Sarah looks forward to planning the open Sundays with the Vestry. If a supply Priest is used and a sermon is prepared it was recommended we continue with the current rate of pay.

2. Sarah has become a member of the Rutland Young Professionals. She has made contact with the Lutheran Church. She has reached out to Project Vision. She requests that anyone with recommendations as to whom she should contact to please e-mail her the person or organization's contact information. Kathy will send Sarah contact information for Grace Church.

3. Discernment 1 -3 year timeline: will consist of: Interim work, Sustainable Stewardship, and Evangelism / Engagement with the broader community and Dioceses. Sarah would like to have several special sessions with the Vestry to specifically address this time line. She thinks 2 to 4 meetings would be sufficient. She will send an outline of each category to the Vestry for their input.

V. New Business:

1. Funding for landscaping: Jay advised the total cost for professional landscaping for the Rectory and Church will be around \$5,000.00. The landscaping invoice will be paid from the Property Fund. There was further discussion about donations for beautification, flowers, and a celebratory outdoor service when covid-19 restrictions and weather permit. Holly noted the choir has been discussing methods to bring the music outside and when permitted start singing. Fern, Sarah, and Krey recommended that a notice in the Church bulletin and during Church services is the best way to get the congregation's input on donations for these projects. Fern, Holly, and Melissa will review the draft bulletin notice with Sarah before it is sent to Wendy for publication.

2. Monthly review of website: Fern reviewed the history for Sarah. After discussion Melissa and Sarah will work together to organize the website and church e-mails.

3. Restart work: Sarah will contact the Restart Committee, which is currently: Fern, Jay, Rich, Rich Carlson, and Larry Jensen to determine the best date to start outdoor services. John Riddle will be asked to join the committee by Sarah. Fern noted that Trinity has already completed Phase III so outside services are already permitted. Holly said the choir is eager to sing. They will sing with masks on and as socially distanced as required. They just want to sing. Kathy noted that outdoor church chairs should be set up outside before the service as some members may not have chairs. Because many members of Trinity will not be able to attend outdoor services Sarah will also provide the same service through Zoom. Nanci Gordon has helped set up outdoor services in the past. Dave volunteered to help the re-start committee.

4. Pastoral Care: Sarah intends to start a Pastoral Team. She would like to clarify where and how the

team will meet with those needing pastoral care. She would like to schedule certain days exclusively for pastoral care for those that may wish to talk. Rich will e-mail Sarah the names of the former Team members. Kathy will also e-mail Sarah the list she, Krey, and Holly put together before the pandemic restrictions. Melissa noted that any Team members that may need to get a covid-19 vaccine can sign up at the Hospital to get on their back up list.

5. Audit Committee nomination: the Finance Committee requests Marc be nominated to fill the seat vacated by Erica Senecal. Krey made a **motion** to nominate Marc, seconded by Rich vote called, unanimous approval, no abstentions.

6. Vestry Resource Guide Chapters 4 outlined by Jay and Chapter 5 by Rich. Jay summarized that the Vestry should look to the Church's mission and what the Church can do. Action to accomplish the goals are primary. Prayer is important and Bible study within the Vestry should be considered. Discernment with the congregation should be continuous. Then objectives and six month and one year deadlines should be set. The Vestry should be leaders and Evangelists.

Rich summarized that the Vestry is also the manager of the Church. This includes the budget, the annual audit, proper insurance, appointing a Treasurer. Trinity also has a Finance Committee and By Laws set forth in its Policy and Procedure Manual. The Vestry needs to confirm that each member of the Vestry has a Policy and Procedure Manual. Several members do not have a copy. An e-copy will be sent to them. Holly will conclude the Vestry Resource Guide during the May Vestry meeting with Chapter 6. Sarah will also be sent an e-copy of the Vestry Resource Guide. Jay or Rich will drop off their copy at the Rectory.

VI. Old Business:

1. Organ repairs: The cost of the replacement pipes from New Jersey will be approximately \$16,000.00. Installation will be approximately an additional \$28,000.00. The Organ Fund has enough to cover the purchase of the pipes; which is time-sensitive. A request for a grant for the repair cost should be explored. Holly noted that John has said the pipes are in demand and a chance to buy them are a rare opportunity. John will work on a grant request. Kathy and Sarah both noted that Church concerts are a wonderful contribution to the community. John will be asked where the pipes should be stored pending the repairs. David made a **motion** to: use funds from the Organ Fund to purchase the pipes; Holly seconded a vote was called with unanimous approval, no abstentions.

2. Krey made a **motion** to use money from the Property Fund for Church and Rectory landscaping and money from the Operating Fund for a lawn mower, seconded by Melissa; a vote was called with unanimous approval, no abstentions

3. The Logos for the first of the month will continue to be mailed to parishioners unless only e-mail is requested. The second will continue to be e-mailed to all.

4. Energy Committee update: Fern will speak to Aaron to get a start date for installing the insulation in the bell tower before the Fall of this year.

VII. May Tasks: Royal Glass will be checking the alarms and Howard's will check the fire extinguishers.

Motion to adjourn by Jay, seconded by Krey. Adjournment at: 6:58PM

Sarah ended the meeting with a moment of silence and a prayer.

Next Vestry meeting May 20th 2021.

Respectfully Submitted, Marc Brierre