

Trinity Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes in-person and via Zoom
October 19, 2023

Present in person: Mother Sarah Ginolfi, Priest in Charge, Judy Hall, Rich Jones, and Dave Thurmer

Present: via zoom: Holly Webb, Sr. Warden, Elizabeth Bushey, Melissa Alaire

Absent: Cassie Whitcomb

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

II. September minutes: Jay made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Judy. After brief discussion, a vote on the motion was called with unanimous approval, no abstentions.

III. Treasurer's September Reports:

1. Jay made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Reports , seconded by Rich. After discussion, a vote on the motion was called with unanimous approval, no abstentions.
2. The Finance Committee made recommendations for a revision of the "Non Operating Accounts" description document. Sarah asked if there was a motion to accept the proposed edits from the Finance Committee. Jay made a motion to accept the revisions "as presented". The motion was seconded by Rich. There was further discussion regarding the guidelines describing limits on where funds from the "property account" and the "building account" could be allocated. It was agreed that further discussion regarding expanding property fund language would be tabled.

IV. Priest-in-Charge Report:

1. Sarah gave a message of abundance as the Outreach and Evangelism has grown to the point where appointing sub-groups are necessary to the many goals taken on by the team.
2. Several Sub-groups to be within O & E were considered including: for Social Action, for Children and Family, Fresh Expressions of Worship, and Faith in the Arts.
3. Sarah is planning to change her Sabbath day beginning next year from Monday to Friday. Honoring a Monday Sabbath has been difficult given the abundance of beginning-of-the-week needs. Federal holidays, often on a Monday, are also difficult to transfer to other days. Taking the exact holiday day off will be a more reliable way to live into her Letter of Agreement which honors that off time.

ITEMS TO BE ADDED TO THE AGENDA:

1. Update on the organ project: The consultant, Larry will give an update at the conclusion of Phase I. An organ concert is scheduled for November 12th. John says the organ will be ready for the concert. Holly will send an e-mail to Peter to confirm with him that the organ will be ready in time for the concert
2. There is not a definite time frame for the church audio upgrade but Sarah was happy to report that a \$20,000.00 Diocesan grant has been received for the work. We have been told that the upgrade will be completed before Christmas, though we do not have further confirmation of this.
3. Rich reported the Church and Rectory furnaces have been serviced. He is also getting estimates for installation of Heat Pumps in the Rectory; now that the Rectory has new and more efficient windows.
4. The Women of Trinity will be contacted to up-date the storage and organization of the many utensils in the kitchen.

V. Old Business:

A. Stewardship update: The campaign will focus this year on several concepts based on Sarah and the Stewardship Team's review of surveys from the congregation and discussion with the Vestry; they are:

Together, we invite the congregation to Dare to Dream: Abundantly, Joyfully, and Faithfully. Jay, on behalf of the Vestry, thanked the Stewardship Team for their work.

B. Campus Safety:

1. Rich reported that he had contacted several contractors regarding installation of a chain link fence on the north side of the church property. The best proposal was received from Todd Webster; install a chain link fence, length of 176 ft, height 6 ft. The estimate is in the \$5,500 range. Installation could begin within 3 to 4 weeks.

2. Rich made a **motion**: to allocate up to \$8,000.00 to cover the cost of installation of a black chain link fence on the north property line. And to have the cedar trees currently growing on the proposed fence line, trimmed or thinned to allow for proper installation of the fence yet leave enough of the cedars to have a hedge which will look better than just the chain link fence. The motion was seconded by Jay. A vote on the motion was called with unanimous approval, no abstentions.

3. Sarah will notify the property manager of the adjoining property of the up-coming fence installation.

C. Sarah's FTE and LOA extension: To be discussed the end of the meeting.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Discerning new Vestry members: Discussion and contacting prospective new members is on-going.

B. Schedule Fall Clean-up Day: Is scheduled for 9:30AM October 28th. Judy would like at least five people and a truck. It should take less than two hours.

VII. October Tasks:

A. The first session of the Fall Book Study was a success. Fifteen people were there to discuss "The Church Cracked Open".

B. The Church Thanksgiving Dinner will be November 19th.

VIII. Sarah's FTE and LOA extension. Jay made a **motion** to go into executive session 7:05pm; and a motion to come out of Executive session at 7:13pm. To continue the conversation, the Vestry and Sarah will meet and participate with Susan next Wednesday in a Mutual Ministry Review via zoom meeting. More specifics are forthcoming and cannot yet be published in the minutes.

Sarah adjourned the meeting with gratitude and joy.

Next Vestry meeting November 16th, 2023.

Respectfully Submitted, Marc Brierre