

Trinity Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes in-person and via Zoom
October 21, 2021

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

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

II. Approval of September minutes: Kathy made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Jay. After amendments regarding the new humidifier in the sacristy and dishwasher in the rectory, there being no further discussion, a vote was called with unanimous approval and no abstentions.

III. Treasurer's Report: A motion was made by Krey to accept the Treasurer's Operating and Non Operating Fund Reports, seconded by Fern. Sarah questioned if there was an explanation regarding the expenditure from the Property Fund. She will contact Linda Fay for an answer. Fern noted that pledges for this year are at 80% of the projection for the year. A vote to accept the Treasurer's reports was called with unanimous approval and no abstentions.

IV Priest-in-Charge Report:

Mother Sarah's schedule for the past weeks has been full due to several funerals and memorial services. Two of the eight services just held were for persons that were not members of Trinity Church. Therefore for the time being, she will only officiate funerals for members of Trinity She will also not be scheduling any Friday appointments at this time.

Items to be added to the agenda: the Thanksgiving meal this year; follow up from the Values Survey

V. New Business

A. Stewardship Campaign Update: Jay reported the committee has had three meetings to date. He expects the meetings will continue on-line.

1. At this time, projections are ahead of schedule for meeting our targeted amount for pledge and regular income. Members of Trinity will be speaking at several upcoming Sunday services in support of fund raising. Jay will speak this Sunday. Several parishioners have come together to make a special donation that will allow for a dollar for dollar match for the increase of any existing pledge and will add a \$50.00 bonus to any new pledges made this year up to \$3,000.

2. Krey recommended offering a direct payment plan from bank to church which should result in less administrative costs. Jay noted that 23% of Trinity members currently pledge through REALM.

3. The theme for this year's campaign is "courageous hope". The goal for this campaign is to support and grow Trinity's ministries not just cover expenses for operation/maintenance.

4. Kathy noted that pledge cards should also ask if the person wants pledge envelopes. Sarah would like the Vestry to set a positive example and have their pledges in by Halloween. Sarah will speak on Stewardship the Sunday after Jay. Sarah will speak with the Stewardship committee regarding an insert to be placed in the Sunday bulletin with instructions on how to create a REALM account.

B. Advent/Christmas Plans:

Sarah would like to start a process during Advent that will help increase membership. This would include: pew cards, encouraging current members to introduce themselves to new attendees, and wearing name tags. Families will be putting the crèche up. The advent wreathes need to be put up. The

Christmas service should have four ushers. Whether there will be a pageant for just children or both children and adults was discussed but no final decisions were made.

C. Air filters for winter ventilation: Jay and Rich will investigate portable air filters for the Sanctuary with the expectation they will be installed before Christmas.

D. New Vestry candidates: The terms of service for Holly and Krey end this year. Sarah is looking for recommendations for replacements.

E. Thanksgiving Sunday dinner: The Dioceses strongly discourages a group meal. Jay noted whether we have air filters or not is a consideration. Krey suggested we just have deserts. Holly suggested everyone bring a non-perishable item to be donated to the community such as the Salvation Army or the Community Cupboard. Jay will look into coordinating the donations.

VI. Old Business:

A. Organ repairs: An update has been prepared by Richard Kaufman and Peter.

1. Fern said due to costs the repair project will have to be done in stages. Some mechanical issues should be dealt with first. Annual maintenance expenses should be determined so that sufficient funds can be maintained in the organ fund. Fern stated Trinity cannot afford to do all of the recommendations in the updated report.

2. Rich suggested we look into using funds from the Property Fund for organ repair and maintenance. Fern will check with the Finance Committee to see if the Property Fund can be used for organ repair and maintenance.

3. Sarah noted that horizontal storage of organ pipes will over time warp them. She will check with Peter to find out how long before they are at risk of warping.

4. Rich recommends Trinity have a formal agreement with Peter regarding the estimated expenses for each stage of repair including the cost of annual maintenance.

B. Rebuilding the library: Sarah is looking to purchase new books and for books to be donated by the congregation. Cynthia Readnour has said she will contribute to the purchase of new books. Krey recommended that "audio books" also be considered for the library.

C. Parking lot lease update: Sarah will check with Bill Meub regarding the status of next year's lease of parking space to Peoples United Bank.

D. Energy update: the insulation of the bell tower has been completed by Aaron. Sarah noted that two windows in the Rectory still need to be installed.

VII: November tasks:

A. Continue to support Stewardship: Jay reported pie making has begun. A day and time schedule for pie making will be posted on Facebook and in the weekly bulletin.

B. Sock Drives November 13 and December 4th: we will start collecting socks at the entryway of the Church. Holly will get a public service announcement for Trinity's sock drive. It will be called "socks for souls".

Motion to adjourn by Jay, seconded by Krey. Adjournment at 6:17PM.

Sarah ended the meeting with a prayer.

Next Vestry meeting November 18th 2021.

Respectfully Submitted, Marc Brierre