

Trinity Parish Vestry Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2023

Attendees: Garth Myers, Connie Harasymiw, Carol Jones, Kathy Cole, Bruce Duncan, Rob Heath, Charles Melchreit, Cheryl Chadsey, Susanna Brown, Don Ghostlaw, Melanie Hepburn.

Guest: Joan Joseph

6:35pm Meeting called to order.

1. Opening Prayer. Connie Harasymiw. Poem from Rabbi Lawrence Kushner.
2. Guest Joan Joseph. Motion to approve up to a \$1000 (including \$250 already spent) to address issues with the computer in the Parish office and to hire a consultant to update systems made by Don Ghostlaw, second by Connie Harasymiw. Discussion regarding use of cloud vs hard drives, access issues re adapters/cloud obsolescence. Don Ghostlaw offered to assist with clean-up of current workflow and governance/customary documents and how systems are updated. Vote unanimously to approve expenditure. Motion passes.
3. Outreach and Mission. Connie Harasymiw and Joan Joseph. Harasymiw, Joseph, Ann Marie Stavola, and Sarah Butters have been meeting. Still need two representatives from the Vestry to participate. A brochure is being developed to outline activities the Parish typically participates in.
4. Monthly reports.
 - a. Approval of minutes from April 2023 meeting. Motion to approve minutes made by Charles Melchreit, second by Don Ghostlaw. No discussion. Minutes approved unanimously. Motion approved.
 - b. Financial reports. Rob Heath reviewed reports. Garth Myers commented on look of new reports.
5. New business. Garth Myers.
 - a. New Customaries. Garth Myers, Gordon Scruton, and Nan Heath have been working on a set of best practices which has been forwarded to the worship committee. Similar documents are being worked on for other committees such as Altar Guild etc to establish routines for management of the duties for running the services, openers and greeters, main office, etc.
 - b. Altar Guild. Carol Jones reported that new altar linens have been purchased in honor of Arline Hallisey. The linens will be especially appropriate for Creation Season.
 - c. Issa car's fund update. Carol Jones reported that \$600 has been collected to help pay off loan. In addition, the family is trying to pay back the unexpected cost of their airfare from Turkey.
6. Old business.
 - a. Status of transition process. Garth Myers reported that Trinity's request for part-time priest is now up on the diocese website. There are 14 other churches also looking for priests, primarily for part-time coverage. The vestry may be in communication with Amber at the diocese to discuss options for partnering with another parish or adjusting expectations of eucharist and service times.

- b. Update on parish administrator. Carol Jones. New hire, Gail Martin, has accepted the position and is lined up to start soon. She is a Hartford native, and has been living in Wethersfield for 30 years.
- c. Streaming update. Don Ghostlaw. Set-up is ongoing. Question to the wardens for feedback on the draft of communication to the Parish. Draft should be on vestry agenda for June meeting.
- d. Action items.
 - i. Background check for parish administrator.
 - ii. Read Don Ghostlaw's letter.
 - iii. Sign up for Outreach and Mission.
 - iv. Talk with other churches and diocese re partnering in hiring process if no applications received by June meeting.
 - v. Hire IT consultant to assist with parish office computer, transferring files to Cloud.
- e. Closing prayer. Connie Harasymiw.

Meeting adjourned 8:11pm

Minutes respectfully submitted

By Melanie Hepburn 5/18/2023