

Trinity Parish Vestry Meeting

3/16/2023

Attendees: Garth Myers, Carol Jones, Connie Harrasymiw, Cheryl Chadsey, Bruce Duncan, Melanie Hepburn, Kathy Cole, Rob Heath, Charles Melchreit.

Absent: Susanna Brown, Don Ghostlaw.

6:35pm Meeting called to order.

Minutes

1. Welcome to new vestry members, Bruce Duncan, Cheryl Chadsey, and Kathy Cole. All were reminded that we will meet as follows: April 20, May 18, June 15, July 20, August 17, September 21, October 19, November 16, and December 21st.
2. Opening prayer. Carol Jones.
3. Monthly reports.
 - a. Approval of February minutes. Motion to approve by Charles Melchreit, second by Kathy Cole. Unanimous approval, motion passes.
 - b. Approval of February financial report. Rob Heath. Treasurer reviewed the financial report format, and various types of accounts for new members. Motion to approve report by Kathy Cole, second by Bruce Duncan. Rob explained the process of building the annual budget for new members; draft is drawn up in the fall, based on current year's activity. Report approved unanimously. Motion passes.
4. Additional agenda items. None were brought up.
5. Old Business.
 - a. Update on Streaming services. Carol Jones read through email from Warren Blessing stating that we have all equipment, now working on getting fiber installed. Once the connectivity is established, there will be a proof of concept phase to make sure everything works. Communication to our community will be important to explain the system and training volunteers in managing equipment on Sundays.
6. New Business.
 - a. Promoting Trinity in the Community. Connie Harrasymiw. The 2023 budget as approved slated \$1000 for advertising. The funds were used for ads in 4 towns to promote Christmas services and the total charge came to \$1032, or \$32 over the allotted amount. Connie noted that the Blue Sign in front of the church receives a lot of foot traffic, which is a less costly way of letting our community know about events. The website and Facebook are also platforms that prospective visitors might look to when looking for a church. There was conversation about establishing a communications committee. Members are asked to view websites and Facebook pages of other churches before next month's meeting.
 - b. Status of the Parish self-study. Garth Myers. The self-study draft was distributed to all members to review and have been asked to send comments back. Some good feedback was that the real audience of the final report will be prospective priest-in-charge and not the greater diocese.

- c. Change in vestry meeting structure. Garth Myers and Carol Jones. The new wardens have chosen to move from Dwelling in the Word to a more dispersed model of worship, allowing members to participate. Garth will lead the opening prayer next meeting. Volunteers will be asked for each month.
 - d. Parish administrator update. Carol Jones. The 3 wardens reviewed several applications, and quickly settled on a top candidate. It was important that the candidate understand that we are an Episcopal parish that is lay lead. The candidate comes from Grace Church Newington and understands Power Church from the membership side of the house, but not familiar yet with the book keeping side of things. Kathy Cole and Rob Heath are willing to train, as well as on-line resources (YouTube etc.) Tentative start date is 3/27/2023 with a schedule of Tuesday afternoons, Wednesday and Thursday mornings.
7. Committee reports.
- a. Property Committee. Carol Jones read Warren Blessing's report. The majority of the windows in the parish hall and Seabury Room have been replaced with double glazed windows which should be complete shortly. Warren, Cheryl, and Nan Heath have been working on clearing out the children's chapel. Looking for a place to donate children's chairs. Some other furniture might be returned to Good Shepherd. Ceiling is bad and falling down. Lots of children's books are available to be donated. Diocese has contracted with Stewardship Realty which helps churches reimagine uses for their facilities. After a zoom meeting with the property committee, they will be coming on Monday to view the physical facilities. Warren has arranged for a dog training group to come in on Mondays to use the parish hall. Another group will be holding a Qi Gong class once a week in the parish hall. Both endeavors will bring in a little cash.
 - b. Outreach and Mission. Connie Harrasymiw. A review of the history of the new composition of the committee to include at least 2 vestry members. Connie will resume working with Joan Joseph in the next month to hash out the structure of the committee.
 - c. Worship committee. Garth Myers. Although there is not a report this month, the wardens are working to restructure the committee and will come to next month with more information.
8. Action items.
- a. Members were reminded to review the parish self-study, review social media or other advertising of other churches.
 - b. Next month items from Mission and Outreach and Worship Committee will be brought forward.
9. Closing prayer. Carol Jones.

Meeting adjourned at 8:21pm

Minutes respectfully submitted

By Melanie Hepburn