

Trinity Parish Wethersfield Vestry Meeting

Minutes

November 18, 2021

Attendees: The Rev. Tom Furrer (mission priest), Warren Blessing (co-warden), Connie Harasymiw (co-warden), Rebecca Scruton (co-warden), Robert Heath, Greg Joseph, Melanie Hepburn, Carol Jones, Ann Marie Stavola, Sarah Butters, Peter Dewberry, (JR Stanko absent.)

6:35pm meeting called to order

1. Opening prayer led by R. Scruton.
2. Dwelling in the Word. R. Scruton. Poverbs 3:5, 6. The passage was read aloud and members responded with the word or phrase that resonated. What is the invitation or what might the invitation mean, personally? Members were asked to write an individual prayer from the reading for personal use.
3. Monthly reports.
 - a. Minutes from October 21, 2021 vestry meeting. Greg moved to accept and Carol seconded. Minutes passed unanimously.
 - b. Financial report for October. Carol moved to accept and seconded by Greg. Report accepted unanimously. Rob reported income is doing well and expenses are still low. Utilities are under by \$12K. Outreach is also under budget, some funds need to be spent down by the end of the year. (Connie and Sarah will be bringing recommendations to December vestry meeting for approval and distribution.) There was some discussion about possibly restructuring the Financial Committee.
4. Additions to the agenda.
 - a. Safe for the altar guild. Carol proposed we need a new safe that is easier to open and located at a better height, and perhaps have silver evaluated for insurance purposes.
 - b. Nominating committee. Greg announced the committee has been meeting. Rose Reilly will be serving as chair.
 - c. Bibles in pews. Sarah Butters mentioned that it would be helpful to have at least 1 Bible per pew.
5. Old Business.
 - a. Stewardship. Consecration Sunday. Connie Harasymiw. The campaign was very successful. 35 giving units were returned and those cards totaled \$129,000. 8 were new pledges. 21 units increased their pledges. We are still waiting on some mailing cards to be returned. The expectation is for the total pledge and giving amount to be larger than last year, though the final amount is yet to be tallied – expecting the increase to be 15-16% over last year. The campaign had minimal expenses (honorarium for the guest speaker and dinner with vestry and committee, remainder was covered by a donor.)
 - b. COVID Policy Update. Rebecca Scruton. New policy and protocol were presented and reviewed. Update on masking policy. (Exception is Christmas service which will require

that everyone be masked.) “Implementation of the modified ECCT 2-ou-of-3 recommendation (vaccination, mask wearing, social distancing.)” Update will be provided to parishioners via different media.

- c. Property update. Warren Blessing. New pathway is in. Painting in the sanctuary has been put on hold due to discovery of additional leaks in slate roof. DBL Contracting is reviewing the north side of the church building where 6 slates are missing. Quote is \$600 to replace with spare slates currently stored in basement. While he is replacing the missing slates, he will look at the tiles over the south doorway in the rear of the church and provide a quote for repairing the leak in the valley.
 - i. A motion that DBL Contracting of Wethersfield replace our missing roof tiles on the northside of the sanctuary roof at an amount not to exceed \$600.
Rebecca moved, Greg seconded. Motion approved unanimously.
6. New Business. 2022 Budget. Rob walked the vestry through the draft budget line by line. Peter suggested the vestry consider increasing the budget for Outreach/Mission annually by 1% until we reach 10%. Final budget will be presented at the December vestry meeting.
7. Sustainability Grant. Connie H. reported the grant was received for the projects associated with St. Vincent’s School. \$6125 was awarded and \$1550 from the Outreach account. Connie and Sarah will present a revised recommendation at the December vestry meeting.
8. Afghan initiative. Connie H. reported on training with IRIS. St. Andrews, Trinity Parish, Church of the Good Shephard representatives, local Methodist community, and the Generation Church of Wethersfield have all either agreed to participate or indicated interest. The application to co-sponsor a family will be submitted to IRIS (Integrated Resettlement and Immigration Services.)
9. Rebecca led the closing prayer.

Motion to adjourn by Greg, Warren seconded.

Meeting adjourned 8:30pm

Minutes respectfully submitted on 12/8/2021

M. Hepburn