

Vestry Meeting Minutes
Thursday, 28 February 2019

Present: Rose Riley, Denise Paternostro, Fr. Tom Furrer, Warren Blessing, Rob Heath, Carol Jones, Leslie Jones, Tina LaMorte. Cheryl Lewis, Judy Shaw, Linda Traue,
Vestry Chaplain: Rebecca Scruton

Meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm.

I. Opening Worship was led by Rebecca.

II. Mission and Ministry

Vestry discussed an article from the January 20, 2019 edition of *The Living Church* entitled: *Giving and Outreach in the Smaller Church*. The article stressed the importance of the involvement of church members in outreach activities and reporting back to the congregation during Sunday worship. This is already happening at Trinity. Rose described new opportunities to work with the Town Social Services to deliver groceries to senior citizens who need more social interactions. Planning a potluck with the women attending the Family Language school was also proposed.

III. Consent Agenda (3 Items): Minutes of the January 24, 2019 meeting
Financial Report for January 2019
2019 Parochial Report.

Motion: To approve the consent agenda (Denise/Cheryl)
Motion was carried.

IV. Wardens' Report

i. Dates of Vestry Meetings for 2019-2020

Vestry will meet the 4th Thursday of the month except when holidays fall on or near that date. Meeting dates are: 2019: 3/28, 4/25, 5/23, 6/27, 7/25 (if scheduled), 8/22, 9/26, 10/24, 11/21 (the fourth Thursday is Thanksgiving), 12/19 (the fourth Thursday is the day after Christmas), 2020: 1/23 and 2/27.

ii. The link for a free subscription to the Episcopal Church Foundation (ECF) Vital Practices electronic newsletter is <https://www.ecfvp.org/user/subscribe/>. This site contains articles, tools and resources for congregational leaders including vestry members.

iii. ECCT Weekly eNews

The weekly e-Newsletter of the ECCT (Episcopal Church in CT, aka, the Diocese) is an important source of information for those in leadership capacities in the ECCT. Vestry members can be added to this list by the Parish Administrator.

iv. Upcoming Events

Ash Wednesday March 6. Services: Trinity at 8 am and noon; St. Paul's at 7 pm.

Joining Jesus Initiative, March 13th Meeting with the Canon for Mission, Tim Hodapp, about ways to take Jesus into the community.

Lenten Quiet Day, Saturday March 30. Led by The Rt. Rev Gordon Scruton.

Maundy Thursday April 18, 7 pm at Trinity

Good Friday April 19, noon at Trinity; and Stations of the Cross at 3 pm at Trinity
Tenebrae April 19, 7 pm at St Paul's
7th Annual Spring Training & Gathering, April 27th, 9 am – 4 pm at Berlin High School, 39
Patterson Way, Berlin, CT. Registration up to March 31 is \$15. Program may be viewed at:
<https://www.episcopalct.org/FileRepository/DownloadFile.aspx?FileID=1748>

v. Sunday Prayers of the People

Since the Trinity prayer list has become very long we are going to try a new approach to including names on our Sunday morning prayer list. Beginning in Lent 2019, names will be added upon request to the parish office for a default period of one month (actually five Sundays). Names will be read aloud on the Sunday on which they are initially added. All names will be included in the list of names in the bulletin for five weeks.

Each week the list will be reviewed and names which have been on the list for more than five weeks will be removed unless a request has been made specifically to include that name for more than five weeks. (Alternatively, this review of the list could be done once a month and all names which have been on the list for five or more weeks would be removed with the exception of those which have a non-default end date). Individuals may request that a name be included on the list for longer than 5 weeks, however they must specify an end date on which they name should be removed. This end date can be modified if an individual would like a name to be kept on the list for longer than initially requested. Individuals will not be notified that the names have been removed from the list at the end of the five weeks or at the end of the period if longer than 5 weeks. Trinity members who are in nursing homes will remain on the printed list.

If the list of names becomes shorter, Vestry asks the Worship Committee to consider reading all the names during the Sunday Eucharist service.

V. Old Business

i. Parish Hall Renovation

Installation of the ceiling tiles and lights is complete and almost all the painting is done.

ii. Temperature control issues in building.

Energy audit has begun. We are including in the review, the current operation of our boiler, future A/C and lighting needs.

iii. Eagle Boy Scout project

Sean Lawrence is organizing a team to clean and paint three rooms in the basement that will be used to store clothes for the Town of Wethersfield Social Services.

iv. We also have a Capitol Project list that we will review at a future meeting. The next item on that list is our Parish Hall floor to determine options available.

VI. New Business

i. Designation of Senior and Junior Wardens

Motion: To approve Rose Riley as Senior Warden and Denise Paternostro as Junior Warden for the upcoming year. (Denise/Leslie)
Motion was carried.

ii. Increase in Organist's Compensation

The rate increase reflects the percentage increase given to other staff members based on

Diocesan recommendation. Dorothy LaBelle's compensation has not been increased in prior years.

Motion: To approve that Dorothy Labelle's compensation be increased by 2.4% from \$50 per Sunday or rehearsal to \$51.20, effective March 1, 2019. (Denise/Linda)
Motion was not carried.

New Motion: To approve a stipend of \$60 for Dorothy per Sunday or rehearsal. (Cheryl/Rose). Motion was carried.

Motion: To approve a budget overrun for the organist of \$600. (Rose/Cheryl)
Motion was carried.

iii. Allocation of Restricted Funds to be used for mission/community outreach opportunities.

Motion: To establish a vestry subcommittee to consider creating a restricted fund to be used for mission projects (Denise/Warren)
Motion was carried.

A committee (Leslie, Tina and Judy) was charged to investigate the development of a designated/restricted fund within the endowment for special outreach needs such as donating to Wethersfield's Safe Graduation program or establishing a multiyear grant for underwriting one student's higher education needs in Nigeria. The Committee will meet with the Wardens, Fr. Tom and the Chair of Outreach. They present their findings and recommendations to the vestry at the March meeting.

iv. 150th Anniversary Planning Committee

The committee is considering adding our church to the Wethersfield Heritage Walk. This would cost \$2500 and be designed by the Town designer.

VII. Closing

Closing Prayer was given by Rebecca.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:04 pm.

Next meeting: Thursday, March 28 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol A. Jones
Parish Clerk