

Vestry Meeting Draft Minutes
Thursday, 27 June 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 Discussion

- Saturday June 22 Outreach Activity: Lunch in the Park and Church by the Pond
Ten parishioners helped to prepare sixty sandwiches at Trinity then a team of six or seven went to distribute them to the homeless people in Bushnell Park. Approx. 50 people stayed for the service of Holy Communion. It was a good time of conversation.

- Sunday June 23 Program: Conversations with Muslims
Four parishioners attended the program at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Manchester. A panel of three Muslims answered questions about their religion, culture and experiences integrating into American society. The program was sponsored by the Connecticut Council of Interreligious Understanding (CCIU), Hartford Seminary, and the Muslim Coalition of Connecticut. We will consider offering a similar program at Trinity including people from the Family Learning Center, our local churches, and the Wethersfield Bd. of Education. Warren, Carol and Rose will start planning this in collaboration with CCIU.

III. Consent Agenda

Items on the consent agenda: Minutes of the May 23, 2019 meeting
Financial Report for May 2019

Motion: To approve the Consent Agenda (Denise/Tina)
Motion was carried.

IV. Wardens' Report

i. Upcoming Events

- Service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance - July 14th
- Community Meal, Christ Church Cathedral, July 22nd
- Sal's Concert for Trinity September 7th
- Cornfest - September 21st
- Community Meal, Christ Church Cathedral, September 23rd
- Trinity 150th Anniversary and Confirmation service and reception, Oct 6th, 4 pm
- Chili + Rice & Beans Cook-off - October 20th
- Annual Convention - October 26th and 27th
- Sal's concert for Outreach - November 9th
- Community Meal, Christ Church Cathedral, November 25th
- Sugarplum Fair - Saturday, November 23rd, 9-2 pm
- Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service - Tuesday, Nov 26th (time and place TBD)

Trinity, St. Paul's Lutheran, Wethersfield United Methodist, Temple Beth Torah and, possibly, a local Muslim community will join together for a joint service and fellowship.

- Lessons and Carols - Sunday December 22nd, 9 am
- ii. The Racial healing, Justice and Reconciliation ministry of the North-central Region
There will be several opportunities this summer to enhance our understanding of America's racial history. Information about the first one:
Confronting the Slave Trade in our Back Yard: Pilgrimage to Brooklyn CT and Providence RI, July 13, 2019
This bus trip will visit Old Trinity Church, Brooklyn, built by enslaved persons; then travel to Providence RI for a two-hour walking tour of the city and finally, to the Center for Reconciliation to learn more about the international slave trade. \$65/person. Bus trip limited to 40 persons. For information:
<https://www.episcopalct.org/FileRepository/DownloadFile.aspx?FileID=1801>
For tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/confronting-the-slave-trade-in-our-back-yard-bus-trip-tickets-62723872792>

V. Committee Reports

- i. Trinity 150 - Oct 6th Festive Service and Reception Planning Committee
To accommodate the high numbers expected, the event has been changed to a hors d'oeuvres reception. This will cost approximately 30% less than a sit-down meal. We are considering using the nonprofit Hands on Hartford as the caterer.
- ii. Property Committee
Updates on Continuing Projects
 - Floor cleaning: Project was completed within budget limits by P&J Cleaning Services. We now have instructions on how to clean the floors and we have a working cleaning machine. Touch up painting on the stairs is now needed.
 - Sanctuary lighting: The chandelier bulbs have been replaced with new, brighter bulbs (not LEDs).
 - Repair and refinishing of main entry doors: The doors on the north and south sides have been sanded and repaired using epoxy. They will be painted red.
 - Energy Audit: The heating capacity of the furnace is insufficient for our needs; we may have to install a second furnace for supplemental heating which could cost around \$10,000.New projects
 - Masonry work on Old Sacristy roof (Capital Item): Water leaks have damaged the new ceiling. The problem is caused by the parapet line around the top which needs to be repointed. Estimated repair cost: \$4-8,000.
 - Seabury A/C (Capital Item): A Sanyo ductless system could be installed. Cost not known at this time.
 - Grant application to ECCT: This would cover the work on parish-hall ceilings and masonry repair. Up to \$8,000 can be awarded. Application deadline is Dec. 2019.

VI. Old Business: none

VII. New Business

i. Next Vestry Meeting

Motion: To cancel the July meeting and meet on Thursday August 22, 7 pm. (Denise/Rose)
Motion was carried.

ii. Modification of Building Use Policy by Outside Renters

Motion: To modify the building rental policy to exclude the serving of alcoholic beverages at any time. (Rose/Denise)
The motion was carried.

Rationale: The current policy states: *Use or possession of alcoholic beverages or drugs is not allowed. Beer and wine can be served if a meal is also being served. Non-alcoholic beverages will be served in an equally attractive and convenient manner.*

We recommend that the policy be changed to read:

Use or possession of alcoholic beverages or drugs is not allowed.

An *ad hoc* committee, comprised of the Wardens, Father Tom, Warren Blessing and Carol Jones, was formed to consider an alcohol use policy for parish-sponsored events. The committee will report back at the Aug meeting.

iii. Parish Picnic

We want to determine if there is interest in having a parish picnic at a location in Wethersfield this summer. An event leader is needed if this event is to take place.

iv. Transfer of funds from checking account to Merrill Lynch account

Motion: To transfer \$20,000 from the checking account to the Merrill Lynch Investment account. (Rob Heath/Finance Committee)
Motion was carried.

Rationale: There is more than \$43,000 in our checking account which, based on the last five months, is more than needed to cover current expenses. Monthly revenue is enough for this. The transfer of \$20,000 to investments would leave about \$23,000 in checking including \$5,000 for the 150th Anniversary dinner and \$5,000 for the Parish Hall floors and other projects.

VIII. Closing

Closing prayer was given by Rebecca.
Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Next meeting: Thursday, August 22 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol A. Jones
Parish Clerk