

Trinity Episcopal Church

Rutland, VT

Vestry Meeting Minutes June 20, 2024

Present via Zoom: Mother Sarah Ginolfi, Holly Webb, Melissa Alarie, David Rugger, Dave Thurmer, Brandy Blosser, Judy Hall, Jay Slenker, Cassie Whitcomb, Fern Fryer

- I. **Call to Order** Mother Sarah called the meeting to order at 5:03pm and opened with prayer.
- II. **Approval of March and May Minutes** Holly highlighted the wording in a section of the May minutes regarding her consulting on contracts in the leasing of office space at Trinity. The amended version should state: Holly has support from Bill Meub to proceed with proposed revision of contracts. Fern moved to accept the amended minutes. Seconded by Dave T. Unanimous approval.
- III. **Treasurer's Report for May** Jay moved to accept the financial report. Seconded by Melissa. Unanimous approval.
- IV. **Rector's Report** Mother Sarah gave an update on the work being done at the rectory. The problems in the attic are still an issue and the insurance company will be contacted. Wasps and yellow jackets are still being found in the house.
- V. **New Business**
 - A. **Updated Rector's Housing Allowance** Fern moved to increase the Rector's housing allowance to \$5,000 for 2024. Seconded by Dave T. Unanimous approval.
 - B. **Action Items from the Finance Team** David R. made a motion that \$20K be transferred from the Smith Benson Fund to the Building Fund by September 20th. This sum represents \$10K to reimburse the Jubilee Fund for funds already given for rectory repairs, as well as \$10K for about half the cost of the pending renovations. (\$23K). Seconded by Dave T. Unanimous approval.
- VI. **Old Business**
 - A. **Updated Language for Jubilee Fund** The updated description for the Jubilee Fund will state: The Jubilee Fund, established in celebration of Ralph Severance, is used for parish operations, ministries, and community initiatives that celebrated God's mission of love, care and generosity with the world and our neighbors. This fund can also be used to provide loans to other funds when extra budgetary needs arise.

B. Rectory Update Mother Sarah gave further updates on the rectory. In addition to the kitchen and bathroom renovations and plumbing repair, the garage door will be sealed (thereby better insulating the garage), the well-worn front door will be replaced, a shed will be built to house gasoline for the mower and create more storage space, soffits and eaves will be fixed, and the rectory will be power washed.

C. Organ Project Update Larry Nevin (an outside consultant) evaluated our organ and determined Phase 1 of the organ project is not complete and some items need to be addressed. We discussed options on how to move forward to resolve these issues. David R. made a motion to secure up to \$1,000 in funds to compensate Larry Nevins to evaluate the organ. Seconded by Melissa. Unanimous approval.

D. Memorial Garden Update Trinity had a Memorial Garden clean up day. We are awaiting new lights on the east side of the building to shine on dark areas. Although the hemlocks have been removed, the roots are still extensive and myrtle hasn't spread over them yet. Discussion followed about how we could smooth out the area to create better drainage. Also discussed was ordering extra paving stones and storing them in the basement. Holly volunteered to help coordinate work in the Memorial Garden and she'll work with JoAnn O'Hagen who has been involved and in touch with several contractors. Contractor responses continue to be sluggish.

VII. June Tasks Few mission statement worksheets were returned so a decision was made to table the task until the fall, possibly involving the Stewardship Team.

VIII. Report of Email Voting (none)

The meeting adjourned at 6:35pm.

Next Vestry meeting is August 15th, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Brandy Blosser