

Trinity Episcopal Church

Vestry Minutes

Tuesday, February 27, 2024

Present:

Stewart Abbot, Senior Warden
Mark Johnson, Junior Warden (via Zoom)
Judy Gregory, Treasurer
Julie Matt, Clerk
Lisa Blank – term ends 2025
Jim DeMersseman – term ends 2025
Margaret Grant – term ends 2025
Linda Haley – term ends 2026
Sean Miller – term ends 2026
Bob Brunswig – term ends 2027
Rachel Manring – term ends 2027
Linda Springer-term ends 2027

Also Present:

Jan Branham
Sheryl McBride

Meeting **called to order** by Stewart at 6:30 p.m.

Meditation offered by Stewart

Welcome to Jan Branham and Sheryl McBride

Additions to the Agenda

Parochial Report discussion will be added to the agenda

Business

Minutes from January 23. **Motion** to approve as submitted was made by Jim, seconded by Bob. **Motion carries**

Financial Report

Judy presented the written financial report and verbally supplemented. Diocesan and Regional contributions are zero. Payments are always a month behind. However, December's amount is accrued in December then reversed in January. When payment is made in January, the payment and the reversal wash each other. This method will continue as long as Diocese and Region Contributions are based on a percentage of the previous month's plate and pledge. Brightwhite billed for December, and it was paid in January. The **motion** to accept the report comes from the committee, seconded by Margaret. **Motion carries**

Discussion/Decision Topics

Vestry for 2024

At the close of the annual meeting, our new vestry members were Rachel Manring, Linda Springer and Bob Brunswig. Subsequent to the meeting Brandon Wright, Sheryl McBride and Jan Branham expressed a willingness to serve on the vestry. Jan had expressed interest prior to the Annual Meeting, but her email was inadvertently received in Stewart's spam folder. Bob and Linda formally resigned from the vestry. **Motion** to accept the resignations of Bob and Linda was made by Lisa, seconded by Jim.

Motion carries.

Motion to have Jan and Sheryl take the two open vestry positions, terms ending in 2027, and Brandon take the one open vestry position, term ending in 2026, was made by Jim, seconded by Linda H. **Motion carries.**

The Parochial Report was submitted for perusal by Stewart with explanation. The report needs to be submitted by March 1. **Motion** to approve the corrected report was made by Judy, seconded by Linda H.

Motion carries.

Columbarium spot for Thomas Myers – **Motion** to allow Trinity to give Thomas Myers a space in the columbarium wall was made by Julie, seconded by Sheryl. **Motion carries.**

Lent and Holy Week developments – Sheryl reports a choir will be singing for Easter. Judy and Margaret need additional lead time for the bulletins for Holy Week. Lisa will talk with Rachel to confirm the amount of money remaining from the Christmas flowers for the purchase of Easter flowers. Lisa, Judy, and Margaret will work on the arrangements for Easter flowers. A funeral will be held on March 23rd, the Saturday prior to Holy Week.

Helper ministry update – Jim is pleased with how things are going. If people need Eucharistic Visitors, please let Margaret know that. Judy reports the office helper situation is going well.

Building Use – a UNC violin graduate student would like to use some spot in the building weekly for practice and in exchange for that space, will play at services beginning in May. Affirmative consensus.

The NA group wants to meet at Trinity on Tuesdays from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the library. Stewart will follow up with the group to get more details regarding the number of attendees and our expectations of them.

Wee Love is expecting that the rental for their space will go up and they would like to know what we anticipate that will be. Judy would like to have the information by the first Monday in April. Bob and Rachel M. will get together with Judy to try to come up with an amount for rental.

Roundtable

Jim wants to commend Sheryl, Ray, the singers and now the violinist, but he feels coordination is vital. Sheryl states that when coordination is needed, it happens.

Bob comments that the number of choir people is astounding. He feels it makes a huge difference to the congregation to have music. Bob thanks everyone and says it has been a pleasure to be on the vestry despite the difficulties. He has enjoyed it and found it challenging.

Sean reports that Meg was gone Sunday in the afternoon and Judy did a really good job with Holy Communion. He feels that our culture has shifted in that we step up and help each other and he sees that as a strength for Trinity.

Lisa feels that we're all cross trained now. The noon Ash Wednesday service was well attended and very nice and felt sort of like a "motley crew, beloved of God." She thinks seasonal choirs would be good, partly because they offer shorter commitments for those volunteering.

Julie has nothing.

Rachel is going to take on the project of the back lot to investigate changing it into a natural habitat.

Jan states that her ministries are altar guild, sacristans, and acolytes. She will be moving forward with the goal of bringing in acolytes for our services and has already begun this process.

Linda H. loves the praise songs at communion. She wonders where the time and talent cards went. Stewart has them and will send out the compilation to all vestry members. Linda S. will organize the time and talent people from the list that Stewart has compiled.

Linda S. loves this church and will be here to assist however she is needed. She indicates that the last three years have been difficult, emotional, challenging and she appreciates the opportunity to continue to assist where she is needed.

Margaret enjoyed the soup supper and felt like we had the right amount of food. She has enjoyed working in the office.

Sheryl loves the community. She thinks it's been a rough three or four years and feels we have gone through difficulties but loves the spirit she sees returning. As long as she can add to the music, she will do that. She's been trying to put in the praise songs. She asked about the blue Praise Songs book.

Judy reports the finance committee is going to meet March 19, at 6:30. The Episcopal Leadership thread comes from the diocesan office and that group has a Vestry 101 course which is based on the Vestry book that Judy has. It was suggested that the entire vestry sign up for the course. She requests permission to submit the vestry members' email addresses so that we can get on the thread. All agreed to allow Judy to submit our email addresses. In the finance meeting they talked about the King Soopers money. We receive approximately \$300 per quarter, which represents about 33 families who are signed up. She suggests it's time to push that again.

Mark used Zoom on Sunday and compliments Mark Woolworth on his job there. He asks for date suggestions for the "Day of Raking," and if there is anything specific people want to see done, please email Mark. An air handler was inadvertently on and has been turned off.

Stewart and Mark met with the City Water Department. The City is in the process of abandoning the water line to the south and west of our building. We will be getting our water from the street. The work should be completed sometime this summer. Judy, Mark and Stewart visited last week with Lucy Amerman. It has been suggested by the Diocese that she would be a good consultant for us to move forward. She suggests we start small group listening sessions: home groups, church groups, zoom groups that would include all the vestry members. Stewart would like the vestry members to begin thinking about what questions we want to ask.

Stewart reads "The Purist" by Ogden Nash

Julie closes with a prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Dates to remember:

Finance Committee meeting – March 19, 6:30

Next Vestry meeting – March 26

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Matt, Clerk of the Vestry