

St James Vestry Meeting

August 17, 2021

Present: Drew Beck, Patty Earhart, Ned Travis, Chuck Rogers, Maeve Vogen, Phil Tatem, Bill Kilgour, Marc Wezner, Josh Ilgen, Iva Ferrell, Sarah Deacle, Peggy Spinozzi **Absent:** Fr. Mike Sowards

The Meeting was opened with a prayer at 7:32pm. Drew Beck led the meeting in Fr. Mike's absence

OLD BUSINESS

1. The Vestry minutes from June 2021 were approved pending spelling corrections
2. There were no e-votes this month; there was an email to vestry regarding eyeglasses collection for donation
3. A reminder for the September Vestry retreat was announced for Friday and Saturday 9/24 and 25th. Friday night dinner will be at St James catered by Bella Rosy. The Retreat will include the September Vestry meeting
4. Dine and Donate to benefit Outreach House is scheduled for Tuesday October 12th; 10% of proceeds from take-out or dine-in up to \$400 will go to Outreach.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Lawn and Snow Contract: Vestry reviewed the bids by 3 companies who responded to the RFP's for grass cutting and snow removal. We would like to combine services to one company. Upon examination, it was determined that Green Scene Landscaping responded to RFP most comprehensively for both services and their price was good. Full disclosure: This company is owned by the husband of our Director of Communication and Parish Operations, Lisa Reinhardt. The Vestry voted to give a year contract to Green Scene subject to review in 1 year.
2. Chimney Repair- Glebe House: Maeve reported that the inside of the chimney had collapsed. It was repaired with an insert for a cost of \$800.
3. Signage and Security Cameras around Outreach House and Playground: There have been problems with people dumping furniture and other unwanted items at Outreach House as well as issues with teenagers loitering and vandalizing the playground at night. After discussion, the Vestry agreed to move forward with getting cost information on signs and security cameras. Bill will also notify the LP police.
4. Reception for Globus Medical: Patty reported that a date is to be determined for a small reception to recognize the financial contributions from Globus to the Outreach House. We will discuss this further at the September meeting.
5. Tree Removal: Four trees on the property need to be removed, Marc will get an estimate, if over \$3000 we will need to get an RFP. More information will be available at the September meeting.
6. Patty announced that the Outreach House was gifted a \$500 shopping spree at Target. She and Carol will go shopping this Friday.
7. Coffee Hour: Summer coffee hour has informally started this summer for a small group of people and will officially re-start in the Fall by the Parish Life Committee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Parish Life: Ned discussed the September 12th Church Picnic which will be hosted by the vestry. ECW will provide desserts. Many items will be in personal packages such as chips and condiments for safety. We will plan for 75-100 people for the picnic which starts after the 10am service. Vestry is needed for set up and serving. The Vestry voted to accept this report

Finance: Phil presented June and July financial statements. He noted that collections have slowed slightly, as usual during the summer. Remarkably, donations for Outreach House remain high. We have some higher Building and Grounds expenses coming up. There still will be about an \$80,000 deficit, some of which will be made up with unrealized investment gains. We have gained new members and pledges are still steadily coming in. Phil noted that we have applied for a \$22,000 grant from Montco. He is working on improving our bookkeeping and accounting practices which he will discuss further in September. The Vestry Voted to accept both reports

Building and Grounds: As previously discussed. In addition, Phil reported a broken pipe in the downstairs bathroom; a repairman has been called, The Vestry voted to approve this report

Communications: No report, we will discuss security cameras and signage in September

Outreach House: no formal report, the Vestry voted to approve the items discussed at the meeting

Education: Lauren emailed a report which was approved by the Vestry. Phil noted that there are shifting recommendations for church school from the diocese due to covid, Lauren is prepared for all scenarios.

Member Ministry: They would like to introduce new families at the picnic, we have 2 baptisms in the next 2 weeks, The Vestry voted to approve this report.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:56 and closed with a prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Schiavo Spinozzi

Vestry Secretary

