

St. James Episcopal Church

June 14, 2022

Vestry Minutes

Present: Lou Steffenhagen, Chuck Rogers, Francois Springuel, Drew Beck, Peggy Schiavo Spinozzi, Janice Tabbut, Marilyn Hastings, Phil Tatum, Josh Ilgen, Marc Wezner, Sarah Deacle

Absent: Bill Kilgour, Iva Ferrell, Fr Mike (on sabbatical)

The meeting was opened with the Vestry prayer

OLD BUSINESS

1. Phil reported that Laurie Daniels from Church Foundation suggested that more details are needed for our request for transfer of funds from the Platts Hall fund. He offered a more descriptive paragraph to be added to the May 15th minutes which can be used for this purpose. A motion had been passed to withdraw up to \$80,000 which he plans to do in 1-2 draws. Peggy will make necessary change to minutes. Also, will change Once to Olce pizza. May minutes approved as amended.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Lisa would like clarity for the 2022-2023 Calendar. Discussion as follows
2. **Possible Garage Sale-** Peggy will chair this, there was a discussion of dates, likely will be October 15th in Outreach House parking lot. Will plan to sell tables via social media advertising, ask parishioners for items in Happenings, use any household items donated to OH. We need full support of Vestry for this.
3. **Welcome Back Picnic-** Sept 11 or Sept 18 which is 1st day of Sunday School. As we did last year, we plan to have pizza, salad and beverages. Will have tents over food tables. Sarah and Marilyn to co-chair.
4. **Ministry Fair-** is scheduled for weekend of September 24th. We need volunteers from each service to stand at Vestry Table. We need to communicate to the parish what this is so they will be more likely to come*

*We discussed if parish announcements should be printed and available to be read during services either in the order of service or on a separate sheet of paper. Drew will discuss with Lisa.

5. **Ham and Oyster Dinner-** although our main organizer is no longer available there was reluctance to let go of this long-standing church tradition which is a visible community event.

We have a book written by Ned with information on how to put on the dinner.

We will investigate prices of oysters before making a final decision and look for the book

6. **Christmas Eve Dinner**-there is no one to run this dinner at this time. Usually about 60 people attend. We will advertise in Happenings for parish members who may be interested in continuing this tradition by volunteering to run it
7. **Annual Meeting** date will be February 5th, 2023- We will have a hybrid event by holding meeting in person with streaming to parishioners who want to view from home. Date is pending Phil's ability to have 2022 finances available.
8. **Chicken BBQ**- May 20th, 2023. We will need to check cost of chicken and our previous connection to Speck's chicken.
9. **Stewardship Campaign**- Lisa is gathering materials, Drew and Marilyn are also working on this Chuck has been speaking at 10:00 service about our financial shortfalls; our income is not covering payroll currently
10. **Buildings and Grounds Concerns**-
 - Our old HVAC system has no maintenance contract. Lisa found a company (Sebastian and Sons) that can cover all units on our property for \$1600/year.
 - No other companies were interested in providing a price. Motion was made and passed to award annual contract to Sebastian not to exceed \$2400/yr for heating maintenance contract.
 - Cemetery Wall- 2 areas are deteriorating. Bids were as high as \$300-500K several years ago for total repair. Shagani asked \$18K for partial repair, \$40K for repair of all stones.
 - Headstones- 60 headstones are sinking or have fallen over. They have been assessed in severity from 1-10 and can be fixed in phases. We have 2 cemetery accounts: one is restricted and one is unrestricted. Motion was made to have an evote later to decide to do all or some of them.
 - Cemetery Trees-There are several trees that need care or removal. Will get bids for this.

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COMMISSION AREA REPORTS

Finance and Budget- the report showed a surplus due to bills being paid later last month

-We are awaiting payment of Alatha's estate which is expected in November; will borrow \$50K from Platts Hall fund as previously discussed to meet expenses until then. \$30 remains available if needed.

-We are awaiting a \$6,000 insurance payment

-Phil recommended that OH reduce monthly purchases from \$3000 to \$1500. This is still being discussed with OH leaders.

-Marilyn Hastings has been doing some data entry so we do not have to pay the accountant as much. Report was approved as given.

Buildings and Grounds- a verbal report given by Marc included information that they are looking into a quote for mulching and a landscaping contract. Report approved.

Outreach House- 101 total families served in May Written Report approved

Education- Written report approved, there are 2 cabinets to give away

Membership and Parish Life- Sarah requested ideas for approaching new and prospective members and reminded everyone to be friendly to new faces at Coffee Hour, Volunteers are needed to host coffee hours. Report approved

Rector's Report- given by Drew, Normally no vestry meeting is held in July, If we hold one it will be virtual on Tuesday, July 19th. Look for email regarding decision on this.

Meeting was closed with a prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peggy Schiavo Spinozzi
Vestry Secretary