

St James Vestry

Meeting Minutes

August 16, 2022

Present: Fr. Mike, Drew Beck, Francois Springuel, Peggy Schiavo Spinozzi, Marilyn Hastings, Barbara Bateman, Chuck Rogrs, Marc Wezner, Iva Ferrel, Sarah Deacle, Phil Tatem

Absent: Josh Ilgen, Janice Tabbut

The meeting opened with the Vestry prayer at 7:30

OLD BUSINESS

1. The Minutes from July were approved as written
2. E-votes- there was 1 evote regarding an Eagle Scout project for raised beds in the Community Garden which was approved unanimously. It will be completed during the Fall

NEW BUSINESS

1. Buildings & Grounds-
 - a. Fall Clean Up- to be done on a Blue Jean Sunday, date TBD in Oct/Nov
 - b. Marc has determined that modifying terms of the Landscaping contract with Green Scene, several thousands of dollars in savings could be achieved. The contract was signed in August 2021 and was to include services for Fall 2021 and 2022. He will inquire if the company agrees to modifications for this Fall. This will be used in consideration for upcoming bids on landscape contract decisions in January 2023. A motion was passed to modify the landscape contract to capture cost savings.
 - c. Snow removal Contract- The vestry decided it would be better to split the landscaping and snow removal contracts. We need to get bids for snow removal ASAP. Three contractors will be asked for bids: Green Scene, Steve Folk, and a company recommended by Bill Kilgour. We will vote by evote in expedite finalizing the contract.
 - d. Update on Graveyard Repair Estimate Process- Francois believes that one of the bidders on the project may not have the ability to do the job, he will be reviewing the bids soon. A motion was made and passed to empower Francois to move ahead with Phase 1 of the cemetery repair, barring any unforeseen events in which case he will email the vestry.
 - e. Glebe House- The roof is in disrepair; flashing around the chimney is allowing water to leak inside. Additionally, Chuck noted that there is a water leak in the Sanctuary. Father Mike will call Tim Kane to look at both problem areas
 - f. Blue Jean Sunday- date will be coordinated with Lisa

- g. Day Care Space- Sweet Peas Child Care is interested in renting the space which has been vacated by Creative Beginnings. The vestry discussed considerations in setting a price for monthly rent which may be approximately \$1500-\$2000 per month. Fr. Mike will handle negotiations and email vestry the details. We will be responsible for deep cleaning the space prior to their move in date.
- h. Yard Sale Update- Peggy circulated a signup sheet for jobs for the day before and day of the 10/15/22 yard sale. Fr Mike asked her to send it to Lisa so that the congregation can also participate. We decided that the Youth Car Wash should be on the Church Parking Lot and the Yard Sale will be in the Outreach parking lot. There will be directional signs and people directing traffic.
- i. Outreach Expired Food Policy- Barbara noted that someone complained about our expired food policy. She presented a document from the USDA regarding the safety of expired food beyond their marked dates. A motion was made and passed to adopt a policy that mirrors the USDA document on expired food as our Outreach House Expired Food Policy. Copies of this will be hung prominently in the Outreach House.
- j. Crop Walk- Trinity Lutheran UCC has designated OH as a recipient of 25% of funds from the Crop Walk this year which is on Oct 16th (day after the Yard Sale). We need someone to sign up participants from the congregation.
- k. Stewardship Update- Building The Kingdom of God
Postcards will be sent to parishioners with QR codes to download pledge cards (this saves postage on mailing pledge cards). Paper pledge cards are available for those who prefer them. Campaign kick off is Sept 17/18th, there will be skits and video vignettes created by Lauren culminating with the Ingathering on October 22/23.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Fr. Mike reports that we did not get the diocesan grant that he applied for but he plans to re-apply for projects such as our parking lot or the Glebe House roof.
- 2. Deacon Lou has many duties at Epiphany Royersford and needs to be relieved of some of his duties. He will no longer be able to be at OH on Tuesday evenings. Fr. Mike will ask the Bishop to assign us a new deacon so that Deacon Lou can be free to take on his new role.

COMMISSION REPORTS

- 1. Finance and Budget- Phil reported that there was an \$8,600 deficit in July. The Church Fund increased last month. The audit was completed. The attorney for Alatha's estate said that we can expect \$244K to arrive in late October or early November, however it should be noted that we have already spent \$190K of this money. His report was accepted.

2. Buildings & Grounds- recommended that we do not reduce trash pick up until after the yard sale (Nov 1st suggested). Also need to see how the daycare will affect amount of trash. Marc has cleaned out the second bay of the garage and it is now ready for use. Report accepted
3. Communications- Lisa sent report, We discussed printing a small number of single page parish announcements to be available at services, Fr Mike agreed and will discuss with Lisa. Report accepted
4. Outreach House- Backpacks and school supply distribution has started, Report accepted
5. Education- no report
6. Membership Ministry- no report
7. Parish Life- no report
8. Rector- no report

The Meeting was ended with a prayer from Father Mike

Respectfully Submitted,

Peggy Schiavo Spinozzi