

St Matthew's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting, Aug 24, 2022

The vestry of St Matthew's met Wednesday, August 24th at 6pm via Zoom. Members present were Chris Ellis (Sr. Warden) Kyle Dennis (Jr. Warden), Deb Hansen (Treasurer), Chris Yarberry (Secretary), Ellen Gregan, Melinda Hood and Selena Ellis. Also present was the Rev. Jay Bruno (Vicar) and the Rev. Nancy Cook (Deacon).

The meeting began with Compline led by Rev. Bruno with responses and readings by Rev. Cook.

Old Business

Motion to accept July minutes as written by Ellen Gregan, seconded by Melinda Hood. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to accept July financial report by Selena Ellis, seconded by Melinda Hood. Motion passed unanimously.

Average Sunday attendance for July was 37.

Rev. Bruno updated us on Kroger card number one; it's still in use for purchasing items for James' Food Pantry. He also reported that Praesidium training is now underway.

New Business

Monk Ambrose requested to use our space for services. The vestry agreed that this is not something we want to do and feel it would be a conflict of interest.

Rev. Bruno confirmed Worship Committee members (Chris, Selena, Debbie and Jay) and said he will send an email shortly to schedule their first meeting via Zoom.

Rev. Bruno's continuing education for Clinical Pastoral Care will be in September. As he will be traveling back via air through Atlanta and has a tight connection, Rev. Cook will be scheduled for Morning Prayer the Sunday morning following his return on Saturday night. If he is back in time he will assist with Morning Prayer.

Rev. Bruno also shared that his visit to the Bishop with Anita went well and her discernment was approved and will begin shortly. The Bishop shared his concern about lighting in the church and Rev. Bruno assured him this has been improved but we will make sure to double check bulbs ahead of his visit. Ellen Gregan recommended we recognize and thank Kyle, Chuck and Tony for the lighting improvements and the vestry agreed!

Rev. Bruno made the vestry aware of the need for some new altar equipment. Motion to buy new altar equipment (chalice veil, burse, pulpit scarves and purificators) by Melind Hood, seconded by Chris Ellis. Motion passed unanimously.

Additionally in early August, it was brought to our attention that the tenant in the RB House is quite ill and will be moving to the Pittsburgh area where her daughters live. The issue was discussed online beginning on August 11, and the following recommendations were made:

1. To return the deposit of \$300.

2. To not collect any rent for September even though Barbara's belongings will still be in the House.

3. To return Barbara's rent for August. Her check was deposited on Monday, so it was suggested that we return only the rent (\$600) and keep the money for the trash bill.

Even though her belongings will still be in the house in August, she has not been in the house much at all this month, and it sounds as if the family really needs the funds. Barbara has been a good tenant over

the years, and this would be a good way that we can help her family at this difficult time. Deb Hansen moved, and Chris Ellis seconded that these recommendations be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

As a follow up to the addition to the minutes above regarding the RB House tenant, the estate sale to be held at the RB house for our former tenant Barbara will be held in October. Afterwards it will be necessary to clean up and check up on the house to prepare for renting again. New real estate company is 21st century. Deb also added a suggestion that we ask about getting the refrigerator as a donation to the church (for Flower Guild needs) since we've been flexible about the situation and helped with giving back some rent funds, etc.

Deb brought the following concern to the attention of the vestry: as treasurer it has become very difficult to manage the church's bank accounts online because they were set up as personal accounts quite some time ago. As banking practices have changed these accounts should now be business accounts. Setting up new accounts would allow for them to be managed more easily online, particularly with money to be transferred between savings and checking. Deb's request is for the vestry's approval of the following: to allow her, Melinda and/or Selena to seek out a better bank and set up new accounts for the church there, in hers and Melinda's names, and to set up 6 and 12 month CD's with online banks for better rates to earn more on our church savings and money market accounts.

A motion to allow Deb Hansen and Melinda Hood to open new bank accounts for St. Matthews was made by Chris Ellis and seconded by Selena Ellis. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion to allow Deb Hansen and Melinda Hood to set up 6 and 12 month CD's with online banks for a better rate of return was made by Chris Ellis and seconded by Ellen Gregan. The motion passed unanimously.

Rev. Bruno and the vestry thanked Deb for all her hard work on the church banking issues!

Rev. Bruno reminded us that we have 8 church members participating in Em training at Trinity Cathedral this Saturday! He also shared an update on the Curry family.

Motion to adjourn by Chris Ellis, seconded by Melinda Hood.

