

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church Vestry Minutes

18 April 2022 / 6:45 PM / Parish Hall

In Attendance: Rector Fr. Randy Johnson, Senior Warden Chris Mayr, Junior Warden Karen Hartman, Ross Ackerman, Patrick Ahern, Cheryl Bailey, Madisen Crow, Ann DePaolis-Jones, Eric Hedican, Alexander Kun, Jeanna McLoughlin, Finance Committee: Tom Linder, Clerk Robert Williams Absent: Jeanna McLoughlin

AGENDA:

Opening Prayer and Vestry Covenant Reading by Fr. Randy & by Leslie

Minutes Review and Approval: Vestry Minutes by Vestry vote. Karen made a motion to approve; 2nd by Madisen the motion; unanimous approval

Pulse of Parish Presenters: 8:00 service by Eric and 10:30 service by Ross

Team Reports

Finance: Tom Linder explained how to read the Statement of Financial Position. PIF investment down \$23,356, but \$19,511 due to the market, after the quarterly draw. (Dedicated Funds) 1100 Sent \$5,000 to the PIF. It will show up in the next month's report. Current Month Income-Expense is +\$7,830.31.

Kitchen expense: The hood vent in the kitchen, per fire rule, has to be cleaned annually. Even though we did not use it. The company gave us a \$100 discount.

We received \$26,000 from Excel Energy, \$20,000 for purchase of the Easement along the west parking lot, and \$6,000 (\$2,000 per month) for renting part of the parking lot for three months. We had \$26,000 go into the Parking Lot Maintenance Fund Account and then \$20,000 came out & went into the Endowment as was decided by Finance and Vestry previously.

Pat Ahern announced that the Audit 2021 is done! The audit lasted only 1 morning. Last year, it took several months to schedule and the results took awhile to get. We had trouble contacting another church for the audit. The Audit team was Tom, Ruth, & Jean Crow. Everybody audited everybody. The documents were handed over to the ECMN.

We have \$23,000 more than the FDIC insured \$250,000 in our accounts (the amount includes checking & savings). If the bank ever closed, we would be out \$23K. There are several options. The general fund checking account balance is \$273,846.45. Jean Crow suggested to prepay the Mission and Ministry Support (to the diocese) for the rest of the year, \$30,672 (April is already paid at this point). ECMN is happy with that. The vestry needs to have a motion. Patrick moved to prepay the Mission & Ministry Support for the entire year. Motion seconded by Leslie. Mission & Ministry Support payment passed uniamoniouy. (The MMS will likely increase next year.)

Altar Guild: Karen reported that the 10-member team met in-person for the first time in two years. Lynn Baxter has to step down from serving. Randy reported that Jennifer Wright led the meeting and did a great job involving everyone. The Altar Guild does have a lot of money, in the Dedicated Fund. The Altar Guild needs more linens, vestments, banners, and pattens. Allison will start to investigate the cost of things. Cheryl: Asked if the Altar could have wheels attached to make it easier to move it for Music Ministries events. Chris will bring the request to Buildings & Grounds.

Buildings & Grounds Chris said the team is getting bids for the installation of gutter covers on the NE corner of the church above the sacristy since it is too high for any B&G member to climb up and clean out the trees growing in them. Also, might be cause of the sacristy and back stairway smell. The Gathering Room air conditioner is clogged & it was leaking water during last year's audit session. We are expecting another expense to have the air conditioner fixed. On Thursday, Bruce, Chris and Ruth are meeting a new cleaning service provider since our current service isn't making the grade.

Children's Ministries: Eric: Marion does not need anything. The Vacation Bible School is 25 -29 July. It is called "Food Truck Party: on a roll with God." Chris reminded Vestry that St. Christopher's Day is July 31 and will tie into the Food Truck theme. That is the day Vestry serves lunch to our faith family members.

Communications: Nothing to report. Madisen

Community Dinner/Keystone: No updates For the Community Dinner, Ross needs to talk to Al. The main thing is to bring back the "Coffee Hour." Ross

Kitchen, Funeral/Caterer, Special Gatherings: No report Ann

Gardens: Leslie reported Jeff will create a Google doc for the seeds & the plants needed with the planting dates. Compost is going to be delivered soon.

Green Team: Alexander reported the Green Team will meet in person regularly now. Karen added that the Green Team will host coffee and treats this Sunday after services in honor of Earth Day.

Faith Family Welfare: Cheryl shared that on 1 May, our Children's Ministries kids will assemble little May Day baskets with the Faith Family Welfare team to be delivered to the apartments across from the church on Hamline Ave. Marion is concerned nobody will see them since everyone parks in the back. We try not to apostolize. Basket will have a postcard, as a friendly happy reminder of the church across the street. This team is complementing the work of Hearts and Hands, who serve our homebound faith family members by paying attention to the members who need a pick-me-up or acknowledgement. Eric thanked the team for the little thing left at his doorstep during the trying times of the Minneapolis Schools Teacher Strike. Karen will do a Google doc for people who need something to brighten up their day.

Hearts & Hands: Chris reported that Jane Suilman brought plants. The plants were delivered to the homebound faith family members Holy Thursday and Good Friday. They also assembled plastic eggs for the Children's Ministries Easter Egg hunt yesterday.

Meals on Wheels: Chris shared that it is done every 3 weeks on Tuesday. While some people can't do it because they are working, others can do it over the lunch hour. Pickup is around 10:45 & done by 11:45. Chris

Stewardship: Karen has started looking at what needs to be done.

Unfinished Business:

1. Vote to donate the historic hymnal book to U of M . Ann made the motion; Leslie 2nd the motion; passed unanimously to donate the book. .
2. Faith Family Caring Endeavor: See reports.
3. Ann- Use of the Parish Hall Labyrinth. Marilyn had some natural songs, Fr. Randy guessed there were 30 people throughout the day. People walking in & out. It would be nice to do it once a quarter, to start in July. Fr. Randy was pleased with this, saying "We are rediscovering what we have!" Information when the Labyrinth will be open. What to the labyrinth with information: parish emails, poster / educational Fr Randy will do a follow-up during adult ed. Will find a Saturday to do it.

Rector Report: Fr. Randy signed us up to participate in a paid research opportunity, the FACT Study to measure how churches have weathered the Covid storm. It is done by the General Convention of the Episcopal Church. Fr. Randy will do the Survey 2022-2026 with a \$2500 stipend, half paid at beginning and half paid at end.

The Excel project is beginning west of the church. Fr. Randy talked with some of the crew members. They are quite conscientious about not making too much noise especially when we have programs going on.

Remind us the mask mandate is optional but still have a mask handy or nearby just in case someone is concerned about passing of COVID or immunocompromised. Some of the people that use the building during the week will make their own masks mandates.

Holy Week was well attended. Fr Randy wants to thank everybody for helping with Holy Week.

Bishop Loya is urging congregations to go back to the common cup, in your own context. The "wine jello shots" were not approved. Fr. Randy was hoping we could try a pilot project, just to see. As for the common cup, is a stay tuned. We are still receiving Communion in one way so nobody is being necessarily shorted.

By July 1, Fr Randy is hoping to be full-time.

Coffee Hour: The Green Team will do the coffee this Sunday 24 April, because of Earth Day, after the service at 10:30. Mark it as “Earth Day” special. A discussion ensued about when to hold coffee hour in conjunction with the two services. It was thought that with weather getting better to re-initiate doing it in May when we go to the summer one service.

Wardens’ Remarks: Jr Warden Karen: Nothing

Sr. Warden: Will miss the next 2 Vestry meetings.

Closing Sharing comments

Announcements/Shoutouts:

“Revival” by Robin Mark (song) Chris

Adjournment: Motion made by Pat and seconded by Alexander, unanimous approval.

NEXT MEETING is 16 May 2022 at 6:45 p.m.