

APPROVED

HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
MINUTES of VESTRY MEETING June 12, 2024

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. [Isaiah 43:19]

Present: Susan Howland, Eileen DeMings, Nancy Waugh, John Grant, Jean Frost, Robin Yates, Dave Monroe, Ryan Bousquet, Cat Reith-Lowery

Regrets: Lynn Garland

**HOLY EUCHARIST
OPENING BUSINESS**

Acceptance of Minutes: May 8, 2024, Jean Frost **A motion was made to accept the minutes from the April meeting with the correction that Susan Howland was present. It was seconded and carried.**

Treasurer's Report: Nancy Waugh Nancy did not receive any questions about the financial information she sent out via email. **A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report, it was seconded, and carried.**

PRIEST'S REPORT

There is a new bishop in the Lutheran Synod. Please keep BLC and the Synod in your prayers. Pastor Dan did get to meet Bishop Doug Fisher and Michael Bastien at the Synod gathering and they did talk of getting together at some point. Pastor Dan's sabbatical is August to October 2024.

Pastoral Care Check-in

What have we done well? Organizing a get-together with a group from Food Share about using/renting space in our building. The funeral for Colleen Chickering, the choir singing during May. The garden is looking very good, Lynn and Dave have been working on it. Pastor Dan feels very welcomed here. He appreciates our grace and understanding.

What could we have done better? Transition from Mother Judith to Chris McTigue doing the bulletin.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Do we want to continue to include "Vestry Highlights" in the service leaflet and Tidings? If so, who takes responsibility for getting this to Chris? Jean Frost, as clerk will take care of that in consultation with Pastor Dan. Jean will also send a draft of the minutes to Chris McTigue, so she is aware of what is going on.
- Do we have a start date for the first Collaboration Committee? June 18 will be the first meeting of the Collaboration Committee at 6:30 pm at BLC. Pastor Dan recommends the committee continue to meet while he is away on sabbatical.
- Food Share: Susan Howland presented material from 2019-2020 regarding discussions with Food Share and town officials. Included in that material was the report of a feasibility study of potential uses of the classroom space done in 2019. In the report the Architect made a note that the Town Planner indicated he would consider a food pantry an extension of the mission of the church even if was not being run by the church. There was a lot of work done at that time to figure out what needed to be done to make this happen. At the end of 2020 the board of Food Share decided they would not relocate. After the announcement made in church on June 3, 2024,

about Food Share having to find a new home, Dave Monroe set up a meeting and walk-through for June 7th at the church with four members of the board of Food Share and himself, Jean Frost and Susan Howland. The meeting was very positive. The board indicated they will make their decision at the end of June. They had a few other places to look at. If they say yes, we feel like we can do what will need to be done to make it happen. **A motion was made that the Vestry supports Food Share moving into Holy Trinity, if their board would like to proceed. The motion was seconded and carried.**

MINISTRY REPORTS (as appropriate)

- Communications – Susan Howland. Cat Reith-Lowry, John Grant had an opportunity to speak with the Diocesan Minister for technology, Ellen Lincourt. She had some suggestions about different cameras to use that can zoom in on the altar area with better resolution. John would like to find some options that are more affordable. There is grant money that we received from the Diocese that is available for upgrading our technology. Susan Howland spoke with Chris McTigue about who she can call with questions that come up. Susan created a spreadsheet for the Administrative Assistant that lists who to contact with questions in various categories, provides contact information for the person or persons. The most recent Microsoft update caused some chaos with the church's documents. Susan was eventually able to locate them and took steps to prevent it from happening again, or at least until the next update.
- Endowment Committee Report – Susan Howland – A written report was sent via email. Robin Yates is the secretary and Ron Texiera is a committee member.
- Building Committee – Jean Frost – Tamsin Lucey had notified the Vestry Executive Committee that we passed the Board of Health Food Service Inspection with flying colors. There is a new Food Service inspector, and he is streamlining the food service inspections. The most recent inspection will be the only one required for the year 2024. Starting next year licenses will run from January 1 to December 31. Susan, after speaking with Tamsin and Nancy Waugh, has taken on the oil tank project. Susan has been in touch with our contact at Tasse's and has learned that they are waiting for their oil tanks to be empty so they can pump out our oil into their tanks. Our underground tank will then be empty and may remain underground for the time being. We will receive credit for the usable oil, which will go toward paying the bill for the work done and the two new above ground oil tanks. Hopefully this will happen within the next couple of weeks.
- Landscaping Committee – Lynn Garland, Dave Monroe
 - New plants have been added to the garden.
- Family Worship/Faith Formation – Eileen DeMings - no report, Pastor Dan wants to meet with the kids before he leaves for sabbatical. There are no plans for VBS this summer. Summer will be spent planning for the Fall Faith Formation.
- Daughters of the King - Robin Yates reported that Judy Reich would like to become a member again, the Province DOK leader said that was possible.
- Stewardship – Nancy Waugh, Lynn Garland - Nancy received the password for TENS material for stewardship.
- Praying Hands Ministry – Susan Howland – Susan asked about blessing new Prayer Shawls the first Sunday in July, then again right before Pastor Dan leaves for sabbatical. After some discussion it was decided that there will be one blessing of prayer shawls on July 7th.
- Hospitality – Lynn Garland sent this report - Coffee hour continues to go smoothly. Karron Lacey has stepped down from coordinating special events so when there is a special event, we will need to identify someone to serve in this role. No other issues or concerns.

CLOSING PRAYER: Dave Monroe shared Prayer of St. Brendan (Irish Contemplative)
ADJOURN: A motion was made to adjourn at 8:55 pm.