

Church of the Nativity
Minutes of the Vestry
November 15, 2022

Attending: Stephanie Yancy, Matt Dutton, Bill Sena, Beth Crow, Josh Booth, Anne Krouse, Allison Martin, George Douglas, Perry Suk, Stephanie Sumner, Ann Stokes, Clerk

1. The meeting was convened over in person at 7:00pm.
2. Bible Study: Isaiah 65:17-19
3. New Business
 - a. New Vestry members: Eric Knapp, Sarah O'Connor, and Charles Malone
 - b. Christian Education
 - i. Fewer kids coming—how might we include families, appeal to seniors?
 - ii. Think about what would work now to bring people in.
 - iii. Is this a time to recruit a new youth minister?
 - iv. Show appreciation for those who have worked during this time,
 - v. Sunday school will stop until after the new year.
 - vi. Possibly we may involve teens that might like to work with younger children.
 - vii. Consider a new direction the new year –find out what the older kids might want, more informal meeting venues, means of communication for youth vs. children which will require different planning,
 - viii. Stephanie Sumner, Jeremy should be in the discussion.
 - ix. There is a need for a nursery worker that is always available, many parents of small children don't come.
 - c. Josh Booth presented a draft of photography and videography policy for the website. Anne Krouse will review it and report.
4. Old Business
 - a. Approval of November 2022 Meeting Minutes with correction of Bible study citation of 1 Corinthians bible study. Josh Booth moved, Bill Sena second.
 - b. Finance Reports
 - i. The summertime slump continued into September. Overall giving was slightly under for the month of October. We are seeing an uptick, but attendance has not returned to pre-pandemic levels. Expenses are under, rental income is up, salary support from the diocese has helped, We are on the same track as last year.
 - ii. The finance committee will meet the week after Thanksgiving to draft the 2023 budget. Committee requests should be submitted by then. New budget will be submitted to vestry in December.
 - c. Beth Crowe
 - i. The church phone number is now at the top of the web page.
 - ii. Beth will talk to Alfred about working with the web page.

- iii. Question: Should we have a written policy to guide different groups in giving guidance to people who participate in the programs? Beth recommends that she will check with Amy Campbell for a document
- iv. The Day of Giving gathering on the 4th. We need baked goods for that.
- v. Reforestation project donations will be doubled by a donor.
- vi. Please point out the Peace Library to others.

d. General Discussion

- i. Can we mention that plate is available during announcements. Will vestry announcements continue?
- ii. Can there be two vestry reps, one to open and one to close?
- iii. Can we consider changing service time?
- iv. Ryan Parker has some ideas on veteran programs, community is important. On Veterans Day he offered a gathering, and had more than 1 dozen participants. Can we do this once a quarter?
- v. An email went out to lecturers about Lessons and Carols on Dec. 26. This needs to be clarified.

5. Rector Report

- i. Bishop Jennifer will visit on December 4.
- ii. 6 will be presented for confirmation.
- iii. Usually the bishop meets with vestry on the day of visit.
- iv. Libby O'Connor is alternate youth delegate to convention

6. Wardens' Report

a. Senior Warden

- i. Matt suggested moving the December meeting to 12/13.
- ii. Newcomers are here, and need to be encouraged. Discussion: If they fill out the visitor form copies go to Coordinator, Rector, Cheryl Wechter. They receive an email, but everyone should be on the lookout for them. Can fellowship or coffee hour be revived? Just coffee and juice and a quick 30 min meet and greet. Next Vestry meeting perhaps have a discussion with Stephanie Allen about this. What do we want the experience to be for new people? Name Tags for visitors?
- iii. Thank you to Stephanie Yancy for working with the Vestry--a reception to thank Stephanie is planned for her last Sunday.

b. Junior Warden

- i. Sound system--second bid was different from the first. Both come in about 30K,
- ii. Memorial garden: We need to decide how much more to spend on plantings, funds were donated for 3 benches, 6 more for less than \$1000, Trellis will require a permit and be @2K
- iii. Solar--Carl Siegal--2 bids--132k (we would pay @half for 99% power to the church building) on the ground--190k again (about half would be paid 96k for 96% power on the church building roof). This might accelerate the

life of the roof. Another approach would be to add ground installation near the south garden 56.3%. There is also an option to add to panels on Curry Hall 30, 515, and 38k to power the church building. It is more expensive to lease. Duke rebate may extend into 2023, but that is not guaranteed, so application should be submitted before the end of the year. There are donors willing to contribute, and the Inflation Deduction Act may be factored in. Payback would be over 13 years.

Recommendation: Move forward with the Curry Hall installation. The panels have a @20-25 year warranty. This would save @5k per year on utilities. Some money up front, during installation, and on completion. With donations and the rebate, we would only pay @7K in 2023. PPP monies might be used to cover the expenses.

- iv. A motion to install solar panels on Curry Hall with the written commitment from donors, rebate from Duke Power, and Federal incentive. Stephanie Sumner moved, Anne Krouse second.

7. The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Stokes
Clerk of the Vestry

The next Vestry meeting is scheduled for December 20 at 7 pm.