

Trinity Church Pawtuxet
Vestry Meeting Minutes
December 22, 2023

Vestry members present: Margaret Thomas, Rob Duncanson, Gail Anderson, Donna Blue-Tobin, Maureen Mooney, Bill Caldwell.

The opening prayer was led by Margaret Thomas.

November Meeting minutes

A motion was made to accept the November meeting minutes. All were in favor.

Priest-in-Charge Transition

Prior to this meeting, the Vestry was notified by email (Mother Tanya was attending her grandmother's funeral and became ill) that she and her husband Tim will be moving in January. She informed the Vestry that Tim has been called as the next Dean of the Cathedral in Reno, Nevada.

Mother Tanya also mentioned in the email that she will be in conversation with the Vestry when she returns. She assured Vestry members that the Diocese is fully supportive of Trinity Church and will be there throughout the transition. She indicated she would be with Trinity through the Christmas season and hopefully the Annual Meeting.

Senior Warden Report

Margaret Thomas reported on the following:

- A letter was received acknowledging recent donations from the food pantry at Transfiguration Church.
- Letters were sent for memorial fund donations.
- Finance Committee: met twice and will meet again in early January. A budget will be provided by them for the January Vestry meeting. It was mentioned there is not a complete picture of the budget currently.
- The Stewardship campaign has gone well indicating the best year since 2011-2012. Detail will be provided in the upcoming budget.
- All leases were successfully negotiated. The Village will pay \$500 this year and \$600 the following year. PVA has a 1-year lease for storage. Others have a 2-year lease.

Mother Tanya recommended that the Property Committee manage the leases going forward.

There are plans to partner with The Village on a project in the Spring.

Senior Warden Vestry position

Following the Senior Warden report, a discussion followed regarding the Senior Warden position. It was mentioned that the bishop has been supportive throughout this process and envisions good work at Trinity.

The bishop noted that continuity was important and recommended that the current Senior Warden continue for 1 year.

A motion was made by Rob Duncanson and seconded by Bill Caldwell. All were in favor.

As a general reminder, it was mentioned that the Junior Warden, Rob Duncanson is still on the vestry for two more years, and that the Treasurer, Ann Walter, has two more years.

Bridge Priest

Also discussed was the possibility of a Bridge Priest who would provide stability during the transition period. Any candidate would meet with Margaret and once determined, a letter of agreement as to hours, Sunday service and pastoral care would be agreed upon. It was suggested that 30 hours would be helpful for recruitment purposes.

A motion was made by Donna Tobin to conduct a search for a Bridge Priest requiring the conditions noted and to advise the bishop of this, seconded by Margaret Thomas.

All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was presented by the Senior Warden in Ann Walter's absence. It was noted that the financials look good and above what was predicted in the current budget.

A copy of Fund-Raising Summaries for 2022 and 2023 was provided for review and comparison.

The positive financials were partly due to a successful auction, increased pledges and stable utility costs. This will allow for bids for flooring to be obtained next.

A motion was made by Donna Tobin and seconded by Rob Duncanson to approve the treasurer's report. All were in favor.

Margaret Thomas provided an update on the following:

CARJON provided a suppression test for boiler maintenance with good results.

Other electrical improvements will continue.

The light over the door in the Sanctuary is flickering and will be addressed.

Safe Church training is still in progress.

Software for Realm has been installed. Veronica is still cleaning up the data. After this pledge information will be added as well as links to the accounting functions.

Junior Warden Report

Rob Duncanson reported on the Property Committee which includes Margaret Thomas, Donna Tobin, Bruce Beattie and himself.

He mentioned priorities include the carpet, electrical (on going) and the wheelchair ramp, noting Tom Hogan is donating his time and effort to assist with this. Tom is knowledgeable about vendors with windows and roofing. After the holidays he will do an inspection to get this started.

Margaret Thomas mentioned a significant Fund-a-Floor anonymous donation was recently received.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.