

St. Thomas the Apostle Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting Minutes
July 19, 2022

Rector

Father Christopher Thomas

Vestry Members Present

Stephen Toon, Senior Warden

Joe DeuPree, Junior Warden

Kathy Carson

Ruth Woodward

Randy Hering

Alyssa Abadinsky

Lisa Pearson

Officers Present

Caroline Hofmann, Clerk

Wynne Voorhees, Treasurer

Rusty Rippamonti, Chancellor

Absent

Laura Griffin, Controller

Jerry Knight

Michael Legacy

Summary

These minutes contain the following:

- 1) Motion to approve May minutes
- 2) Motion to approve June minutes
- 3) Motion to reimburse gardener Nan Worts as long as she continues mowing and maintaining her plot, not exceeding \$600 following initial reimbursement.

Narrative

1. Call to Order

Rector

The vestry meeting was called to order at 7:03pm by Fr. Christopher who opened the meeting with a prayer. The following agenda was covered during the meeting:

**2. Resource Person
Pearson**

Resource person for this meeting is Joe DeuPree.

3. Reflection/Formation

Rector

Deacon Jennifer Smith leads the group through a meditative and prayerful exercise and the group shares moments that stuck out for them. Discussion follows on the correlations between the reading and present-day life.

4. Prior Meeting Minutes Approval

Senior Warden

Prior meeting minutes approval for the month of May and June.

Motion to approve May minutes

Moved by Lisa Pearson

Seconded by Kathy Carson

Motion approved by unanimous vote

Motion to approve June minutes

Moved by Joe DeuPree

Seconded by Stephen Toon

Motion approved by unanimous vote

Ruth inquires about something the finance committee needed to discuss with the vestry, and Fr. Christopher confirmed that this item was taken care of at the June meeting.

Joe notes that meeting minutes will be posted to the website and sent out to the congregation prior to the arrival of our new parish secretary.

5. Finance Committee

Senior Warden

- a. Treasurer's Report
- b. Report of Finance Committee

- i. Finance committee budget planning for 2023 includes cutting down on unnecessary expenses. As soon as next week the committee and Laura will sit down to discuss an upcoming audit.
- c. Stephen opens up the floor to hear how vestry members feel about being broken up into committees now that this system has been in place for 6 months now.
 - i. Feedback is that this smaller group setup works well; other members feel that there are things in certain committees that still need to be worked out.
 - ii. Many agree that the responsibilities of Mission Outreach need to be further clarified as they are taking on tasks that may not fall under their scope.
 - iii. Kathy requests that money going to KP Polk be allocated to MOC. Randy adds that MOC recently met over dinner and it provided a positive team-building opportunity.
- d. Endowment Fund Report
 - i. Rusty reports that we have yet to hear back from Bank of America over our request for refund on fraudulent check discussed in prior meeting. Legal avenues are still being investigated.

6. Buildings & Grounds Committee

DeuPree

Joe sent out a report regarding the recent committee meeting and is not met with any questions from vestry members.

One of the gardeners has been paying to have the unused plots mowed and wanted to see about reimbursement for the amount of about \$300. The grounds committee believed it was not necessary to proceed with a reimbursement, but Joe wanted to present this to the vestry as well.

Joe proposes that we present the

Motion to reimburse gardener Nan Worts as long as she continues mowing and maintaining her plot, not exceeding \$600 following initial reimbursement.

Moved by Joe DeuPree

Seconded by Kathy Carson

Motion approved by majority vote with one nay.

Discussion follows pertaining to current water bill and what measures can be taken to bring our bill down.

Regarding what is currently the garden, Rusty suggests we find ways to use the garden property once final garden plot rentals are terminated. When that area was previously vacant our property tax exemption was at risk. Group agrees that we should explore events and activities that can take part in that area of our property.

7. Mission & Ministry Committee

Hering

Mission outreach met at Celebration restaurant for their last meeting to touch on goals and have a team building opportunity.

8. Guild Liaison Reports

- a. Acolytes/Eucharistic Ministers - Michael Legacy
 - i. No Report
- b. Eucharistic Visitors - Lisa Pearson
 - i. Up and running again!
- c. Altar Guild - Jerry Knight
 - i. Training 3 additional people this week
- d. Community Garden - Randy Hering
 - i. No Report
- e. Greeters/Ushers - Alyssa Abadinsky
 - i. No Report from Alyssa
 - ii. Fr. Christopher received an email from Tim about once again dividing ushers and greeters, and others agree that this is a good decision.
- f. Kitchen/Social - Randy Hering
 - i. No Report
- g. Lectors (Readers) - Ruth Woodward
 - i. No report

9. Rector's Report

Rector

- a. Our new administrative assistant, Lee Swift, begins tomorrow. Lee and his husband were previously parishoners at St. Thomas so we are thrilled to have him back in the fold.
 - i. Fr. Christopher will send an eblast later this week with Lee's contact information.
- b. Stewardship Committee 2023
 - i. Let Fr. Christopher know if you are wanting to take part in the committee for this year.
 - ii. Beginning sometime in September.
- c. Fall Programming Year - What is the typical kickoff?
 - i. Suggestion is to have a potluck/communal dinner to kick things off in the fall and ideally, bring people in and get them excited about getting involved again.
 - ii. Randy details the dinner: potluck meal and desserts to auction off to raise money for some of the committees. Aiming for September 11th.
 - iii. Sending out another prompt for giving is suggested, but this will be discussed by stewardship before circling back to Vestry.
- d. Rector's Book Study

- i. Wednesday mornings at 10:00am
- ii. Fr. Christopher has asked Deacon Jennifer about leading a lectionary class taking place between services.
- e. Dr. Sprinkle, Ruth, and others will be leading an upcoming class.

10. Resource Person for August - Lisa Pearson

11. Compline

Deacon Smith

12. Dismissal/Closing Prayer

Rector

The meeting is closed with a reading from the Book of Common prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Caroline Hofmann

Caroline Hofmann, Clerk