

St Paul's Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes
March 19, 2023

Present: Cathy Cole, Fred Cole, Meg Goodrich, Margie West, Jan Edwards, Marna Franson, Linc Frazier,, Arlene Gordanier, Kris Mowafy via Zoom.

Kris Mowafy, senior warden called the meeting to order. Arlene Gordanier offered opening Prayers.

Fred Cole made a motion to accept the minutes from the January meeting as they are presented, supported by Cathy Cole, and passed.

New Business

Rescheduled Discernment Gathering –Postponed from 3/16/23 due to a winter storm.

The Discernment Gathering will be Thursday, March 30th at 6:30 pm in the Great Room. Those discerned for Ministry roles will be invited to this gathering to receive their invitation to consider accepting the call to become a Covenant Group and when they are commissioned will be the third generation of Mutual Ministry Teams at St Paul's. It is hoped we will be able to use Zoom for those who are out of town.

Marna talked with the vestry about possibly participating in Genesis II: Re-vision and Renew? The Rev Tom Bracket manager for church planting & Mission development for the Episcopal Church on the Presiding Bishop's staff is among the staff involved. There is an opportunity to participate in learning/discerning visioning . The group meets via Zoom for 90 minutes twice a month and works with a Cohort. 4-5 people specifically not clergy would be needed to commit to these sessions . Possibilities for St Paul's to keep on our awareness,

{<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/genesis-ii-re-vision-and-renew/>}

This is the website for Genesis II and explains what cohorts are and more about this effort. Well received at General Convention 2018

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday---an Agape Meal (NOT A SEDER)

Good Friday Service at Noon here (traditional)

Holy Saturday Vespers and parts of the Easter vigil . New and Exciting opportunity.

Workshop

Visit/ workshop on ***Spirituality and Aging***, as well as time to reflect on Dementia ,with Dorothy Linthicum . Dorothy is an instructor at Virginia Theological Seminary

She is well grounded in the areas of spirituality and aging and has served in many venues on this important ministry. The workshop time is looking to engage agencies, and those who work in these areas as well as other faith communities. Kris Mowafy and Arlene Gordanier volunteered to help design this experience. It was originally set up for May 6th and will be rescheduled for the Fall.

Holocaust Memorial Service Wednesday, April 19th, 7:00 PM with the service at St Paul's and light refreshments at Temple Beth Shalom –across from the diocesan office on Ridge Street. The speaker will be Peter Siminaugh. Thank You Meg Goodrich for your work with this and other efforts of the Inter-faith forum.

We talked about the Red Basket nonperishable food collection and the possibility of resuming this effort especially in light of the governmental cuts to food fund subsidies by the Federal Government.

We also looked at the possibility of an outdoor Food Pantry box –much like the little loaning libraries, there is also a National Pantry Registry. Marna shared some ideas for how to keep it stocked ---from her experience in Arkansas. Needs further discussion. Kathy Binoniemi crafted a food pantry for the church in Houghton.

Old Business

Parking lot issues continue with “Stray Cars” from the neighborhood. Notes on the cars asking for cooperation especially in moving for snow plowing have not reaped success. Ticketing by the police department is being used and if necessary we can involve the agency at NMU who issue parking permits and proceed from there.

Community Meal will be another source for those needing some help. The Federal Government has made cuts in their funding programs---and with food costs increasing that is a major problem. St Paul's is going to do the community meal on a monthly basis with 2—4 people being the hosts and making decisions regarding the menu and communicating to the congregations what is needed.—Carol & Bob Protruski and Cathy and Fred Cole planned March's meal focus Pasta and congregation provided salads and desserts. The advertising was done with flyers at the residences in the elevator's etc., and a sign by St. Paul's indicating the meal. Steps are in progress to continue this approach.

A question was raised regarding how Little Aerial is going and it was reported that the owner has moved to Minnesota.

Linc Frazier advised the vestry he will email the financial report.

Junior Wardens

Pew removal in the front pew area to allow for the Steinway Grand Piano gifted to St Paul's from Jimmy & Kris Ludwig—The piano belongs to Jimmy's family, and no one has

room for this magnificent instrument and Jimmy's Mom is delighted that it will find a home at St Paul's. The piano is in Sault Ste Marie and arrangements for Piano movers continues in accomplishing this. Fred and Jimmy and others are investigating this move.

Ice Dams created some leaks near the small windows in the chapel. Fred and Cathy Cole discovered a cost-effective way to do this. Pantyhose legs filled with potassium chloride did the trick. Heat tape next winter will prevent this.

Looking ahead to funding the repairs needed to the church and those who want to donate now—establish a "Repair billing savings accounts". Keep a ledger—the donor(s) amount \$ and when the gift was given. Money from Darius Morton's concert will go in this account.

Grant: a letter of intent was sent to Sacred Spaces along with the information required, and the team met the deadline. Thank You to Fred, Cathy, Meg, Peter, Chet and previous team Janeen and Jan and any I missed,

The meeting was adjourned.
Arlene Gordanier closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted.
Arlene Gordanier

Lock-up March/April Arlene
Prayers April meeting Arlene