

St Paul's Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes
August 20, 2023

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

Opening prayer was offered by Kris Mowafy. Kris Mowafy, senior warden, called the meeting to order.

Cathy Cole made a motion to accept the minutes of July 16, 2023, motion supported by Jan Edwards and passed.

New Business

Jan Edwards made a motion that \$500 from "earmarked" funds be used to support the Event on Aging sponsoring Dorothy Linthicum. Motion supported by Kris Mowafy and passed.

Sending people to conventions and other events. Many of these opportunities go unfunded and becoming aware of funding sources in The Episcopal Church including and beyond our diocese could support our budget for these events. Such events include diocesan conventions, workshops, re-visioning the church at MSTYC later in September 2023.

Talked about Assessment / Survey and our congregation. Considered examples used in other places as well as those used in our congregation.

Building Use for us is not about "micromanaging" it is about building relationships. We seek to reach out to contact those with an interest in fostering a relationship in using this space, and to provide hospitality. To maintain an intentional image of Welcome. We also want to be responsible for building use and know the necessary information about who, what, where and when of building use participants. It helps in providing a safe as well as welcoming space.

Building repair fund raising for the Tuck pointing etc. tabled. We need to continue to reach out for funding raising sources. Many months of effort were spent on the previous grant efforts and Cathy Cole and Meg Goodrich have continued to look for possible grants using a fund service source. Looking to see who in our congregation is interested in seeking new sources of funding from Grants including Sacred Places. We can also meet with staff in our diocese for help.

Solar Panels

Kris Mowafy and others participated in a Zoom presentation from Solar Faithful (solarfaithful.org) is faith based Solar Power initiative. Solar Power is a 501 (3)(C) The organization focused on clean energy specifically for houses of Worship.

This group works with Solar Wealth who can be a source for purchase on behalf of the Faith Community. Solar Wealth owns and maintains the equipment. Direct Purchase is another possibility for Solar Panels. More information can be found on the Solar Faithful website. There are many considerations in using solar panels and the savings or breaking even.

Meg Goodrich made a motion that we pursue all possible option plan studies, Jan Edwards supported this motion and passed. Linc Frazier will provide the power use data necessary to Solar Faithful and Fred Cole will contact a local Solar company associated with the great lake's watershed for additional information.

Old Business.

Dorothy Linthicum and the aging conference is an Evangelism event. This conference will be a valuable resource for the community and showcase to the community we are a courageous action for St Paul's.

Linc Frazier presented the financial report and mentioned the Finance Committee will meet in the third week in September.

Junior warden report

The Wheelchair access is not good. The atrium entrance has a lump/bump at the entrance and the parking lot entrance sidewalk has a significant dip. Entrance to the Church has only one wheelchair accessibility and then where are they able to sit is an issue. Fire Codes are also an important consideration, and it might be wise to use the blue chairs instead of the current pews.

Last winter we had ice dams on the roof---heat tape will resolve this on those areas. Gutters are in place.

The Undercroft and storage need attention as there is much left from the Old Guild Hall

We had a brief discussion about sustainability of our buildings/grounds and our community. Are we ready for a conversation yet?

Lock-up for September is Cathy Cole
Kris Mowafy offered closing prayer.

Meeting adjourned.
Respectfully Submitted
Arlene Gordanier
Secretary.