

Meeting minutes taken by Jill Barry

Members Present: Kevin Barry, Joel Flint, Angela Keane, John Standley, Laura Daniels, Shelley McKean, Rev. Mike Wernick

Non-voting Present: Jill Barry (recorder)

Meeting called to order 7:03 PM, opened with prayer by Rev. Mike

Agenda approved with additions to “old business” (John moved/Laura seconded)

Clergy Report for March approved (Kevin moved/Shelley seconded)

Approval of March 16 minutes with typo correction (Kevin moved/John seconded)

Liaison Reports – all reports accepted (John moved/Shelley seconded):

- Property (verbal report from Joel)
  - Called and left message with “head” of garden community to see if there are any unused plots available as we’ve had requests – have not heard back yet.
  - Basement flooded again, this time from both east wall and west wall too. Rugs have been cut up and disposed of. Still no action on finding a solution. Discussed, suggestions made to try contacting major commercial companies who advertise regularly in the area, such as Ayers Basements, or Everdry, or West Michigan Waterproofing.
  - John fixed the wonky issues with the digital sign. No more issues except the known “dead” LEDs.
  - Discussed possible lawn restructure to minimize grass and reclaim some of the area for native plants (think bee/butterfly garden & “prairie”). Whatever we do this year, Joel wants to start small, perhaps in just the low gully areas. Was mentioned that some organizations may have grants for such projects, but would likely be for the 2024 growing season.
  - John still to research possible lawn-mower upgrade.
- Community Ministry (written report from Kim H. – not present)
  - No discussion needed.
- Hospitality – (verbal report from Shelley)
  - Easter Breakfast went well.
  - Discussed possibility of joint outdoor service with Holy Trinity sometime during the summer, followed by picnic.
- Worship & Music (written report from Rev. Mike)
  - Rev. Mike meeting with Christine N. on April 28 to discuss committal service for Shirley.
- Correspondence (verbal report from John)
  - The usual thank yous including one from the Green Apple for a \$250 donation.

Treasurer’s Report – (written report from John) accepted along with other liaison reports above.

- Finances good.

- Shirley N. memorial to Diaper Depot has brought in more than \$5,000 in addition to more than \$7,000 in grants and donations from businesses, which Shirley arranged before she passed.
- John still needs to talk to Kim regarding the memorial fund that this still on their budget, and also about using their budgeted funds by the end of year.

Old Business:

- Constitution & By-Laws Update
  - Mike talked to Val Ambrose in person on April 18, she will reach out to Bill Fleener Jr. again.
- Front Sign Repairs
  - John took care of it.
- Christian Ed Discussion
  - Discussed possibility of book study in the fall – nothing concrete determined.
- Safe Church, Safe Communities Training Requirements
  - Submitted background checks for Kevin and Jill.
  - Leadership all signed required documents.
- PRIDE
  - GR Pride celebration on June 17 – noon to 10 PM
  - Booth would need to be manned from noon to about 5 PM
  - Diocese paying booth fees
- Church Cleaning
  - Discussed hiring a second person to come in once a month for a deep cleaning.
  - Laura reached out to a co-worker who could potentially be interested.
  - Stairwell area: John will talk to Gwen and Kim regarding clearing up the bulletin board & display items that are collected at the bottom of the stairwell and potentially placing them on shelves in the Sunday school room.

New Business:

- Background checks for those in leadership roles (see Safe Church under Old Business)
- N/W Lower Michigan Synod Assembly – May 7-9
  - Kevin and Jill will be attending; Mike will not as he'll be at a conference in Milwaukee for the National Workshop on Christian Unity.

Other Issues of Concerns?

- None

Meeting adjourned 9:41 PM; Closed with the Lord's Prayer.