

Meeting minutes taken by Jill Barry

Members Present: Kevin Barry, Cal Meuzelaar, Laura Daniels, Shelley McKean, Mary Trasky, John Standley,
the Rev. Mike Wernick

Non-voting Present: Jill Barry (recorder); Marsha Harrison

Meeting called to order 6:56 PM, opened with prayer by Rev. Mike

Agenda approved with addition (Kevin moved/John seconded)

Clergy Report for August approved (Kevin moved/Mary seconded)

- Transition updates discussed
- Assumption by the Episcopal Church is no contact with Two Churches for at least a year following retirement.
- Current plan will be to move to Rockford.

Prior meeting minutes for August approved with no corrections (Laura moved/Mary seconded)

Liaison Reports – all reports accepted including treasurer's report (Laura moved/Shelley seconded):

- Property (written report from Cal)
 - Of the 3 quotes for snowplowing/shoveling Outdoor Logistics seems the best. Cal will get a correction from them re: not shoveling sidewalks at entrance to building.
 - Not doing addition of trees this year with Urban Waters as we have too many things going on to tackle this project this season. Will look at it again next year.
 - Rain Garden – we will NOT be partnering with a smaller cohort (through Plaster Creek Stewards), but we are planning a 2nd rain garden around the north drain.
 - Fall Cleanup date to be scheduled – tentatively Oct. 26 or Nov. 1
- Community Ministry (Polly S. / Lauren M.)
 - No report.
- Hospitality (verbal report from Shelley)
 - Pet Blessing Oct. 6 – Lisbeth handling snacks for after the service
 - Retirement Party Sept. 21 – Polly heading that up and will be cooking
- Worship & Music (written report from Jill)
 - Polly will be supplying in October and November, and will preside at the Pet Blessing on Oct. 6 as well.
 - Canon Sunil will be here Sept. 29 for Mike's last Sunday. Sunil preaching, Mike presiding, Polly will take some part as well – yet to be determined.
- Correspondence (John)
 - Thank yous from Family Promise, In the Image, and Green Apple Pantry for gifts/donations

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

- Doing well – still approximately \$5,000 ahead of budget.
- Diaper Depot balance becoming critical at approximately \$4000.
 - The funds from the sale of the remaining (physical) RaiseRight cards (formerly Scrip) came to \$840. Recommended that these funds go to Diaper Depot. John so moved, Cal seconded, passed.

Old Business:

- Constitution & By-Laws Update
 - Zoom meeting on Sept. 18 with Synod and Diocesan representatives. Issue is Synod doesn't want liability for the property, which is technically owned by the Diocese.
 - It is recommended that we will need separate constitutions for Ascension and Holy Cross, and another letter of agreement that would better explain how we actually function together.
 - Issues regarding Constitution and By-laws will likely have to be dealt with before we can call a new Pastor/Rector.
- Call/Search Process Discussion
 - General discussion – nothing specific to report
- Safe Church Trainings
 - All current leadership members are up-to-date and complete.

New Business

- Stewardship
 - Discussed – no decisions made
- Columbarium Niche Fees
 - Previous records show some mixed pricing, but most common price was \$150
 - Price going forward (unless leadership makes exceptions) set at \$150.
- Pastoral Care/Special Services (i.e. funerals)
 - During supply time, contact leadership chair who will screen and determine how to proceed
- Worship Time Discussion
 - Will not discuss possibly moving until we have an Interim Pastor/Rector
- Holiday Services – Thanksgiving, Advent, & Christmas Eve (Tuesday)
 - Nothing for Thanksgiving this year
 - Normal 7-week Advent as has been our custom
 - One Christmas Eve service on our own assuming we have a part-time interim separate from Holy Trinity.
- Rev. Mike Retirement Gift Discussion (with his early dismissal from meeting)
 - Cal led a prayer of blessing prior to Mike leaving the meeting
 - Discussed history of salary, bonuses, etc. including note that Mike never took a sabbatical during his 13 years with us.
 - John moved that we give a 2-part monetary gift: \$5000 to Mike, plus an additional \$1000 to the charity of his choice. Shelley seconded, all approved.

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 17, 2024, at 6 PM.

Closed with Lord's Prayer.

The meeting adjourned 10:46 PM.