

St Philip's

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Vestry Meeting Monday, June 26, 2023 6:00pm

Vestry Members Present: Gail Albergo, Lowell Dargbeh, Leigh Egeghy, Erin Gasch, Rebecca Hix (Clerk), Sarah Johnson, Adam McClellan, Wes Newman, Shamioka Rhinehart, Liz Sappenfield (Jr. Warden), Connie Semans (Sr. Warden), and Richard Williams.

Clergy Present: The Rev. Maryann Younger (Chair)

Guests Present: Ginny Bowman (Treasurer), Terrill Lloyd

Call to Order: The regular monthly meeting of the Vestry of St. Philip's Church convened on June 26, 2023 at 6:07 pm in the Library with the Rector presiding. Gail opened with a devotion and prayer.

Consent Agenda (5 min.)

1. Minutes of the May 22 vestry meeting
2. Treasurer's Report & Simplified Financial Report covering May
3. Rector's Report
4. Associate Rector's Report
5. Senior Warden's Report
6. Junior Warden's Report
7. Technology Report

Sarah pointed out two typos in the May 22nd minutes. In the "Delegates to Convention" section, we replaced Vestry with member, and corrected roles to read rolls.

Shamioka motioned to approve the Consent Agenda. Connie seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

New Business

Terrill Lloyd, Ryals Minister for Youth gave an update on the last year.

- Terrill reminded the Vestry of the sections of the J2A curriculum.
 - Rite 13 is entryway into youth program (turning 13 years old). Rite 13 has struggled because there was not enough leaders. We have Daniel Copple and Melyn Gussman who have agreed to be leaders.
 - J2A is headed to their pilgrimage. It is the biggest group and most vocal group of youth. New leaders have been recruited with Hank Sappenfield and Lydia Freeman

- agreeing to lead, and some alternatives (Treat Harvey, Randy Guptill and maybe, Issac Baker).
- YAC (4Ward) is a wonderfully growing group. We will have to do more work with this group because often when kids go on pilgrimage they do not come back to church. Peter Eghegy is stepping away and Heather Beard is staying as youth leader.
 - The biggest challenge in the past year has been a lack of showing up by the youth on a consistent basis. It has often stemmed from competing priorities and very active lives. Often it was simply scheduling. Terrill is working on reversing that. He wants them to feel that St. Philip's is home to them.
 - Proposal for the Vestry to consider: While there is a space for youth ministry, it doesn't feel like spaces are home for youth ministry. He wants to paint and update the furniture, because it sends a message to the youth that we love you and this is home for you.
 - This can be done for \$6,250.
 - There is currently \$14,000 in the Midyette fund, which is where we put royalties from the J2A curriculum.
 - It was clarified that it would be good to know how much has been spent by the parish on pilgrimages in the past, and to be clear that there are 2 pilgrimage funds (Midyette has \$14,000 in it, and the other one has \$25,000 in it).
 - Erin pointed out that it's important to be clear with parents about how much money they need to raise and how much is available from the church for supporting pilgrims and for scholarships.
 - Maryann invited questions and comments from the Vestry.
 - Connie pointed out that 8th grade isn't included in this plan and they needed to be kept in mind, so they don't fall through the cracks. She also pointed out that one of the 4Ward classes has not been on pilgrimage yet.
 - Adam recommends having the youth help with the painting with some limitations.
 - Erin likes having consistent messaging in the youth rooms and thought it would be good for the youth to have some space for free expression. Liz agreed.
 - Adam reminded us that the youth are going on pilgrimage next summer and that is coming up quickly, and that we as a Vestry need to be aware of that.
 - It was clarified that there will be back-to-back pilgrimages, one in summer of 2024 and one in summer of 2025.
 - Terrill is working with the diocese to develop some mission trips. It was recommended that we seek out other parishes that already do mission trips.
 - Gail reminded us to keep in mind that we had a plan to have folks shower and do their laundry downstairs and we might need to seal off the youth rooms to maintain their integrity.
 - Erin wondered if each youth group has their own space, or if the spaces are flexible. If we don't spend the Midyette fund on this, what would we spend it on?
 - *Adam moved that we approve the request to spend \$6,250 from the Midyette fund on the beautification proposal for the youth rooms. Lowell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

Discussion items

The Vestry went into Executive session while Maryann gave an update on previously announced **staffing changes**.

The **Outreach committee**, headed by Amanda Fratrick requested that the Vestry approve \$4,000 in this calendar year and \$4,000 in next calendar year for a Johnson Service Corps volunteer to be placed

at Urban Ministries of Durham (UMD). This doesn't completely fund the position, but they are working to raise the balance of funding.

- Ginny confirmed that we have available money and the Outreach committee should reallocate funds they know will not be spent. Shamioka agreed to take that message back to the Outreach committee.
- **Connie moved we approve the Outreach committee's request for UMD to have a Johnson Service Corps member for a total of \$8,000. Erin seconded the motion.**
 - **It was amended to include that the Outreach Committee work in concert with our treasurer on their budget.**
 - **It passed unanimously.**

The **Social/Inreach committee**, headed by Rebecca, was unable to meet before the Vestry meeting due to the move and would meet before the next package of materials goes out.

All pertinent information from the **Staffing Committee** was shared in the staffing update report out.

The **REALM committee**, headed by Adam, meets every 2 weeks and is focusing on getting the parishioner data into one list. The Vestry is advised to review the technology reports included in the consent agenda monthly.

Brief updates

Connie shared that it was a great **visioning dinner** with 70 – 75 people attending. There was a lot of generous sharing and good feelings.

- The evening focused on an exercise called head, heart and hands, in which people shared what was intellectually important to them (head), what they were passionate about (heart), and where they volunteered (hands)
- Shamioka shared that she was sorry to miss it and wanted to contribute.
- Connie informed the Vestry that there would be a Google form set up and an insert placed in the bulletin for people to continue to offer their contributions.
 - At Wes' request, Connie agreed that we could do another session in person in the Fall.
- We are hoping that we can cull information from the exercise and create a road map of what is important to St. Philipians.
- Liz felt the best part of the dinner was that others got to participate in an experience similar to the Vestry retreat and the group agreed that personal relationships are important.

Liz shared that the **renovation** is rolling along and we are solving problems as we go.

- The parish house roof was replaced in 2 weeks.
- The asbestos removal crew is removing the asbestos shingles and the roofers are putting down a material to keep the rain out of the church.
- They have started taking off the copper roof from the bell tower and are pleasantly surprised that the wood is not as damaged as they feared.
- After July 4th they expect to be finished removing the church shingles, will check the air quality in the church for asbestos, will tighten the lag bolts, and then will begin installing the slate.
- Liz is having weekly conversations with the roofers to stay up to date.
- We are on schedule and within budget at this point. In next month's Vestry packet she will put a budget accounting together with how expenditures are progressing.
- When they did an asbestos survey, they learned floor in sacristy needed to be replaced because it has asbestos in it. Liz decided to defer redoing that floor until we get to phase 2 of the renovation because it is stable and covered by carpet.

- Maryann informed the Vestry that we have \$137,000 pledged toward the renovation project. The goal was to raise \$190,000, which includes a contingency fund.
 - Maryann will be meeting with Grace to launch the public part of the fundraising campaign with the message that this is an emergency and everyone is welcome to participate.

Maryann shared that a month ago she got a call from the “**Khan**” family’s Durham landlord saying he has a refund of \$3,700 because another agency had been supporting their rent payments. We are getting that money back. The family has moved to Raleigh to be closer to work and because the rent is cheaper.

Rebecca shared that we had fantastic participation in **the move**. She was particularly thankful for Adam, Shamioka and Gabe serving as deputies for the morning.

Rebecca moved we cancel the July Vestry meeting. Richard seconded the motion.

- ***Discussion ensued that we would still distribute a July Vestry package and if anything came up we would have a virtual meeting by Zoom.***
- ***The motion passed unanimously.***

Campus Study

- A drafted MOU between the parties collaborating on the discernment about a new UMD facility is necessary to apply for funding from unspent ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds for a feasibility study.
- Connie asked the Campus Study committee to host a Wednesday night dinner in July for the congregation to continue to discuss the project.
- Discussion commenced about the MOU, leadership of the project during the feasibility study and potential implementation, the appropriate role of the Bishop and Diocese, who is responsible for fundraising and the Vestry’s role for right now.

Summary of Meeting

The Vestry discussed bullet points for the congregation to be included in the Epistle about the content of the Vestry meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Maryann closed the meeting with a prayer, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
 Rebecca S. Hix
 Clerk