

DRAFT Vestry minutes

July 17, 2022, 11:30 am

Present:

Barbara Brecht
Kieran Cannistra, clerk
Cass Cole
Karen Dollar, treasurer
Kerlin Richter, rector
Rachel Klein, junior warden
Wendy Oliver
Anne Parks, senior warden
Kit Walling

Absent:

Preston Abbott
Aaron Epperson
Ned Hayes

Observers:

AJ Buckley
Finn Buckley
Jacqueline Gonnerman
Margaret McCue, Building Improvement Implementation team lead
Madeline Moore, finance team lead

Call to order [Anne]

- Anne called the meeting to order at 11:42am and Rachel opened us in prayer.

Acceptance of July officer reports [Anne]

- Kieran moved to accept the submitted reports for July; Cass seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of 12 June minutes [Anne]

- Cass moved to approve the minutes for 12 June; Rachel seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's update [Karen]

- We're down quite a bit for June, which Karen warned us about, particularly for the Sunday plate.
- Madeline and Karen will both cycle off the finance team at the end of 2022. If anyone can recommend someone, please let one of them know.

Building update [Rachel]

- Rachel reports that we had a great impromptu gardening and grounds workday a few weeks ago, and that Sabine Gibson will lead gardening days twice a month through the summer.

Renovation update [Margaret]

- A walkthrough with an architect is scheduled for Thursday, which is expected to be straightforward. We had to hire the architect due to city and county requirements; this was not conveyed to our contractor when she discussed with the city the process to withdraw our commercial kitchen permit.
- Additional electric and plumbing work will be needed to move the coffee machine further against the southern wall, which needs to be done for safety reasons.
- The team is expecting bids on mini-splits for A/C for priority areas of the building. Many thanks to Karen, Charles, and Madeline for their diligence with this effort!

Justice and mercy update [Cass]

- 28 August - September 4 will be our first week of Family Promise. It will take place at either Grant Park Church (2728 NE 34th Ave) or Community of Christ (4837 NE Couch St), though we will volunteer.
- Cass has attended coordinator training. Volunteers will also need volunteer training and Safe Church training.
- Cass moved to approve an expenditure of \$1,353 for 15 beds, to be paid from the Social Justice Fund; Barbara seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Old business [Kieran]

- On June 22, 2022, Kieran moved via email that vestry approve an expenditure of up to \$31,000 from the building fund for capital expenditures, for replacement of the air handler in the furnace room by Pyramid Heating. The motion passed unanimously.
- EBOF grant discussion: AJ reports that we've pivoted from starting a new feeding program to a program that will help churches and clergy support trans and non-binary parishioners, many of who have experienced religious trauma. After some discussion, Kerlin and AJ agreed to work together to build a fundable proposal.
- Ministry teams discussion: Wendy and Kerlin will meet before our next vestry meeting, to prepare Wendy to lead the ministry team program.
- Other ministry team updates:
 - Hospitality is back up and running. Once we have a kitchen, Barbara and Matt Taylor will recruit teams to manage coffee hour on Sundays.
 - Koinonia groups: 35 households have signed up.
- VOD schedule through August 28: DONE

Land acknowledgement [Jacqueline]

- The justice and mercy team discussed developing a land acknowledgement for St. David's, though the intended use of such an acknowledgement has not been decided.
- Vestry accepts with gratitude the land acknowledgement, a living document, as written by the justice and mercy team. (The current version is attached to these minutes.)

Hybrid church discussion

- Karen noted that roughly $\frac{1}{3}$ of our congregation faithfully attends online, and that it's an important ministry. All agree.
- Kieran noted that Julianna Machell is working with Kerlin, AJ, and Finn to survey parishioners on their hybrid worship needs.

Bylaws update

- Bylaws need to be updated to document the process for email voting, and to clarify the required number of vestry members.
- Kieran will write proposed updates to the bylaws and share them with Wendy for our next meeting.

Adjournment

- Barbara led us in prayer and Anne closed the meeting at 1:06pm. We are next scheduled to meet on 14 August at 11:30am in the church.

Respectfully submitted,
Kieran Cannistra, vestry clerk

Saint David of Wales recognizes and acknowledges the history of the land we occupy. Prior to the newcomers arriving in this area, what is now called Multnomah County was home for a diverse array of Indigenous tribes and bands. We honor the Indigenous people on whose traditional and ancestral homelands we live and worship: the Chinookan people whose tribes and bands include the Multnomah, Kathlamet, and Clackamas, along with many other nations of the Columbia and Willamette Rivers such as the Mollalla, Tualatin and Kalapuya.

We recognize Indigenous people as the traditional stewards of this land and appreciate the enduring relationship between the land and the people since time immemorial. We also recognize that we are here because of the sacrifices forced upon Native Americans. Colonialism is a current, on-going process, and therefore, we realize it is important to move beyond this acknowledgement and reflect on the personal history that brought each of us to this place.

We believe that we are responsible for understanding the history of colonization and genocide of Indigenous people and for learning, building relationships, and taking action to support Indigenous sovereignty and priorities. We also recognize that Portland is enhanced by the fact that it is currently home to Indigenous people from across the region and the Americas. We commit to being good guests.