

Minutes for St. James Vestry Meeting, August 8, 2023

Present: Interim Rector, Ruth Anne Garcia; Co-Senior Wardens Val Brustad (2023) and Don Richardson (Clerk, 2024); Junior Warden, Keith Rogers (2023), Treasurer, Frank Smith

2023 Rebecca Riffle

2024 Alisha Figg, Dennis Nelson

2025 Lloyd Riches, Bob Yantis

Guest: Jamie Nelson LSSC

Timekeeper: Dennis

Clerk: Don

6:34 Mother Ruth Anne called the meeting to order and Keith provided the opening prayer.

6:35 Good news and Thanksgiving were provided by Bob.

6:37 Approval of Agenda and July Minutes: Bob noted several typos under Old Business and these were corrected. Don moved for approval with corrections and Dennis seconded. All were in favor.

6:35 Interim Rector's Report— (see written report)

1. Review of Vestry responsibilities
2. Review of Letter of Agreement
3. Leadership Training was being planned for Friday night and all day Saturday August 24th and 25th.

6:52 Senior Wardens' Report—

1. Stewardship Timeline set through pledge intake November — (see written report)
2. Time to consider fall special events and fundraisers
 - a. Mother Ruth Anne noted that she had applied for 50 tickets so that we could see the Sister Teresa movie in October. Other events mentioned were: a chili cook off, a Christmas bazaar. Other suggestions included joining with another church for a music concert, or having a talent show.
3. Tenants Meeting: was planned for August 14

7: 05 Junior Warden's Report— (see written report)

1. Wi-Fi booster permanently installed in the nursery has apparently solved the Bridge Of Promise connectivity issues.

2. Sprinkler repairs we're accomplished by replacing the sprinkler heads
3. Keith suggested we get estimate for garden cleanup. Consensus was to see if the Ann Aarhus plan would accomplish the same without cost.
4. Labyrinth status: Keith recommended that the vestry inform bill Andre that we are keeping the labyrinth since Karen Busey has cleaned it up very nicely. **The vestry accepted this plan by acclamation.**
5. Plan for back parking lot access control: to install a heavy chain between concrete embedded posts on the back drive just below the entrance to the choir room.
6. Keith recommended we set up a mowing schedule to rotate the duty, and that everyone look for replacement push mower.

7:20 July Financial Report:

Frank noted that while we were on track for our budget prediction, we would be 18,000 negative for the year. He also pointed out that last year we had received a \$10,000 grant from the diocese and made an extra 22,000 from the anonymous matching challenge grant. He also pointed out that we were saving money compared to last year as Michelle Rogers was donating her time and talent to make the slides and replace our Minister of Music when James was on vacation.

7:40 New Business Lloyd noted that the light outside the kitchen was out and that the homeless had set up camp there again.

7:42 Old Business: There was no old business.

7:45 Volunteers for duties during the next meeting are:

Timekeeper: Dennis
Clerk: Don
Opening prayer: Don
Good news / thanksgiving: Keith
Financials: Frank
Evaluations: Rebecca
Closing prayer: Val

7:50 Evaluations- Rebecca: we're mostly positive and optimistic with one "confounded "

7:55 Lloyd closed with Prayer and the meeting was adjourned by acclamation.

Interim Priest Report

August 8, 2023

It is hard to believe that August 1, 23 was the one-year anniversary of the beginning of my ministry as Interim priest. Since that time, we have made a lot of progress on the goals we initially set together, but I would also like to take the next month to re-focus on our goals and revise or change them to reflect the work that we hope to do in the next six months and brainstorm ways to attract volunteers to these important ministries. With the majority of our folks already engaged in at least one or two ministries, we are having trouble finding volunteers for a lot of important ministries including altar guild: online, sound and visual folks; children's time/Sunday School, and Vestry. Since last February we have been without office help but are blessed by Michele Rogers who has been making our slides since then and several other folks who have stepped up to help. I have also needed to research and figure out some office administration tasks which has affected my availability for other projects

During this next month, I would also like to take time to look at my letter of agreement which the Diocese like us to revisit each year. I hope to share this information with you all so that you can answer any questions folks might have. As I have reported before, I hope to have a rough draft of our Program Year calendar for the coming year by August 31. Please send me dates that you would like to appear on the calendar.

During the month of August, we will also have a lot going:

1. Re-Scheduled Celebration of Wedding Vows for Sister D and Matt Bracher—August 20
2. Listening Session for Bishop Search—August 20 @ 5:00 pm
3. Transition Leadership Retreat—August 25 & 26—we are looking for a team of six to eight. Let Val Brustad or Mother Ruth Anne know if you are interested in being on this team
4. Rough Draft of Planning Calendar for Program Year – August 31

I am blessed to work with this wonderful community!

Submitted by the Rev. Ruth Anne Garcia+

Stewardship Committee Meeting

July 30th, 2023

Attendees: Bob Yantis, Ann Aarhus, Don Richardson, Sister D. Bracher

Contact Information

Bob Yantis
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Sister D. Bracher

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- I. We will be using The Episcopal Network for Stewardship outline, message and plan (Rooted in Abundance).
 - II. Dates to Know:
 - a. August 10th – Clergy Letter
 - b. August 24th – Wardens Letter
 - c. September 10th – Kick Off
 - d. November 5th (All Saints) – Weekly Testimonials
 - i. November 5th – Don Richardson
 - ii. November 12th – Sister D. Bracher
 - iii. November 19th – Ann Aarhus
 - iv. November 26th – Bob Yantis
 - e. December 3rd – Celebration & Dedication Sunday
 - III. Aspirational Budget
 - a. Full time Priest
 - b. Part time Children’s Minister
 - IV. Add new members for letters
 - V. Web-based training for team
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Junior Warden’s Report August 2023

Wi-Fi Booster– Val Brustad found a piece of metal that could be used to hold the signal booster in place and eliminate the need for duct tape in the window. Bridge of Promise reports that the signal is still very good, with only a couple of people reporting dropouts.

Sprinkler System– Peter noticed that the sprinkler system was not in use. I talked with Jerry, and together we turned the water on to the system. We found that more than a dozen of the sprinklers were missing. Those were replaced and the entire system should now function properly.

Trees and Labyrinth - I was approached by Bill Andre before church to discuss his plans for the church grounds. He indicated that he thinks it is necessary to cut down the two trees in the garden as well as removing the labyrinth in the front lawn. I don’t recall the Vestry voting to allow the removal of the labyrinth. I would like to discuss these two items and have a definitive answer about the labyrinth.

Rear Parking Lot Security – I will be looking for the appropriate posts in the next couple of weeks, as well as measuring the amount of chain needed, planning where the posts will be placed, and the type of lock needed (combination or key). Thanks for the vote last month that allocated the budget for this. Also, we will need to coordinate with our tenants and the trash/recycling as we get this finished.

Mowing Schedule – I will be asking for volunteers to mow the grass in the next couple of weeks. Ian, Lloyd and I have done some, as has Bill Andre’s crew. I want a more formal process than we have now.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith

Keith Rogers
Junior Warden