

**St. John's Episcopal Church, Tower Grove
Vestry Meeting Minutes, August 21, 2022 @ 12 pm – in person**

In attendance: Rev. Nancy Emmel Gunn, Ann Quay Rushing, Ann Balsamo, Liam Clements, John Eads, Correne Murphy, Mary Anne Pikrone, Margarita Tschomakoff

Absent: Brent Brower-Toland, Ronya McCool

Opening prayer, Nancy Emmel Gunn

Declaration of a Quorum and Reminder of Behavioral Covenant – Nancy Emmel Gunn

Appreciations

Jamie Hudson

Accept minutes from July

John Eads moves to accept minutes as written. Liam Clements seconds and minutes are approved unanimously by vestry.

Requiem and Renaissance

- We need a strong presence in the church to reach out to people.
 - The info cards have been working.
- We need to see ourselves as a part of the neighborhood.
- The July meeting had exercises for self examination.

Committee updates

- **Buildings and Grounds (M. Tschomakoff)**
 - 3 bids for the roof. 2 were over 20k. 1 for 14k. Will go for 14k if it is still viable
 - Gary is not around due to illness. May have to look into a new Sexton.
- **Worship and Music (C. Murphy)**
 - Looking into changing Prayers of the People
 - Looking into having homemade communion bread. Just not the gluten free kind
- **Finance (J. Eads)**
 - We are in the black.
 - Income and expenses are on track
 - Need to look into flood insurance. We will have to spend 2% of our coverage (80k) and we can not afford that.
 - Sanctuary is 4million Parish hall is 600k.
- **Fundraising (A. Balsamo)**
 - Since we can have gatherings, look to have something in the fall

- **Outreach (L. Clements)**

- Pride committee is selling T-shirts for \$25.
- Should include Outreach as a line item in budget for next year.
- No Peace Meal was held the weekend of August 13th. First time in 15 years

Start Closed Session

Liam Clements moved to start closed session and was seconded John Eads.

- Will have tent for Pride in the Park
- There will be literature and glitter blessings
- Should we have a service at pride? Is that appropriate?
- Have an outdoor service on Sunday and make it clear all are welcome.
- There is a ecumenical Mass on the Grass but that is not really ours to plan/host. We are just helping out.

- **Education (B. Brower-Toland)**

- Restarting Godly Play and Youth lessons beginning September 18th.

- **Hospitality**

- Homecoming October 23rd

- **Priest's Update**

- Giving out gift cards for food/gas
- Ask other parishes to help out
- Wedding August 27th
- Will be on vacation September 4th -16th
- EEC wanted the office, chapel and sanctuary for \$650. Not enough money for us. Next negotiation was just office and chapel—but they have not responded to Nancy's emails.
- Bishop will be here September 27th at 6 pm. Let hospitality know.
- Will have potluck. Need to decide on a room.

Loose Ends

Need to set up a stewardship committee.

Reminder of Next Meeting Dates

Next meeting is Sunday, September 16; executive meeting Wednesday, September 14. Margarita Tschomakoff will represent vestry.

Closing Prayer (Nancy Emmel-Gunn)

Vestry encouraged to share meditations, prayer and poetry for opening and closing prayer times.