

Vestry of Emmanuel Church
Meeting Minutes
October 21, 2014

Present: Father Eric, Jim Beyer, Bob Ekroth, Jen Enriquez, Bill Hoekwater, Penny Longo, Cindy Mottl, Randy Valenta, Jamie Workman (Dorren Gertsen- Briand, Clerk of the Vestry and Linda Brongel, Treasurer)

Absent: Sam Brenneman, Andy Dolliff

Meeting called to order at 7:07pm by Father Eric, who then led with a prayer.

Minutes from the September meeting were reviewed, amended and accepted as amended.

Treasurer's Report (Linda)

- Funds are a little better this month.
- Pass through account is up because Brat Trot and Oktoberfest are not finally processed so waiting for allocation to proper accounts. The end balance is \$25,000 or higher.
- Final benefits payment to Mother La Rae has been made.
- We have some big items coming up. Next month we pay two months deposit on health benefits for Rev. Eric. In November we pay property insurance.

Bill said we will need a new treasurer or team of treasurers next year, which may have to be added to the budget if we don't have parishioners to fill the post(s). Ardath Barr, Linda and her husband have been doing it this year. Rev. Eric said we need a solution on this by next month's meeting.

Bill said Michael Moon's memorial funds were supposed to go in either the endowment or operating funds, but unfortunately this did not make it into his memorial service materials. After discussion with the family, it has been decided to put the funds (about \$800) into the operating fund.

Team Reports

Parish Life/Outreach (Jen, Penny)

- We will have a game night – but only one this fall, unlike the monthly one we tried before and interest petered out
- Quinn Center Halloween party and Thanksgiving baskets are being organized with SignUp Genius.
- System for welcoming visitors and newcomers is being established.

- Penny likes having coffee after each service but more food gets eaten!
- There was discussion about coffee hour funding. Right now the vestry member of the month brings food. What about a donation basket put on the table to gauge how the service is valued? Bill said the money should then be put in the safe by the person in charge of coffee. He thinks coffee hour should be a budget item for next year. People need to know what it costs to be the church and offer the services people have come to expect. Rev. Eric agreed and suggested a larger concept of hospitality fund in general, so we always have something on hand.

Facilities (Jamie)

- November 8th from 9am to noon is grounds cleanup day.
- Some improvements have been made to the BEDS space, including a 220V line so they could install a dryer for clients.

Stewardship/Finance (Rob, Cindy)

- The committee asked the vestry to pledge tonight so they can say 100% of the vestry have pledged.

Liturgy (Rev Eric)

- Rev Eric gave a brief overview of his approach to management. He has perceived a lot of anxiety here, but says to fear not. He believes in an appreciation of process, boundaries and priorities. He said we don't have to agree, or even like each other, as long as we remain committed to the well-being of the church. He stressed the difference between technical and strategic decisions, saying the most energy should be spent on the latter.

Education (Jim, Andy)

- The acolyte training went well. The kids were excited.
- Christmas pageant is getting organized. Looking for new leader to be trained this year.
- No activity on adult education front.

Sr. Warden Report (Bill)

Jr. Warden Report (Randy)

Old Business

- Existing roof loan was discussed. Rev. Eric asked the finance committee to present options for going forward at the next meeting.

New Business

- Bill read a letter from Samantha Brenneman saying she wished to resign from the vestry. A motion was made to accept her resignation, and passed – with regret.
- An electronic vote to pay \$825 balance for the acolyte retreat was affirmed (because it had exceeded the previous \$500 estimate).
- After some discussion of snow removal options, Jamie made a motion to seek a contract for three months of service (Nov-Feb) and to purchase a snow blower. The motion passed.
- Kathy Valenta addressed the vestry about the challenges of developing a budget for the youth group and asked for guidance. There will be more discussion about this. Rev. Eric said budgets are aspirational documents we learn from.

The meeting was adjourned at 9pm.