

Vestry of Emmanuel Church
Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2015

Present: Rev. Eric, Sr. Warden Randy Valenta, Jr. Warden Penny Longo, vestry members Mary Pat Anderson, Jim Beyer, Andrew Doliff, Rob Ekroth, Cindy Mottl, Marc O'Brien, Jean Owen, and Jennifer Vince (Larry Brongel, Treasurer and Dorren Gertsen-Briand, Clerk)

1. Called to order at 7:06pm
2. Opening devotion led by Rev. Eric
3. Remaining agenda adopted with addition that we will immediately seat Jean and Marc as new vestry members-at-large!
4. Prior minutes had two comments:
 - a. Typo under Arts Committee – “e-mmanuel” should specify the Facebook site
 - b. There were education and stewardship reports
5. Wardens' Reports
 - a. Senior Warden
 - i. Resignations of vestry members Randy McKinney and Jamie Workman accepted
 - ii. New vestry members Jean Owen and Marc O'Brien seated
 - iii. Discussion of whether the Art Center contract verbiage “under guidance and control” is the best language. Perhaps “umbrella” is preferable.
 - iv. Report accepted as amended.
 - b. Junior Warden
 - i. Sidewalk square fundraising – as of today we have \$3600, maybe \$1,000 more coming. How shall we prioritize squares when doing all of them is not an option through adopt-a-square? Does Building and Grounds have enough to cover the remainder? YES. Anticipate that this will not be more than \$3,500. Motion: To proceed with interior sidewalk square replacement while pushing the adopt-a-square program. Motion passed unanimously.
 - ii. Attendance chart discussion. Rev. Eric asked about the relationship of these numbers to Sunday School and other programming. Experimenting requires more than one week of data! Penny suggested we ask Deacon Bill to do another chart in December. This idea was accepted.
6. Treasurer's Report
 - a. We actually have money! \$38,600 in operating.
 - b. Antique Show proceeds were \$5,400
 - c. \$500 loan fee was paid for line-of-credit
 - d. How will we handle accounting for painting classes in Art Center? PayPal may be an issue. It was set up by Sue Jasiak. Can ask her questions.

- e. We will be at zero by the end of the year but still in the black. Should have cash due to pledges paid in advance during December.
 - f. Treasurer's report accepted.
7. Priest-in-Charge Report
- a. Doing a service for grief around All Souls Day
 - b. Blessing of the Animals coming up
 - c. 9am service is rolling. Evening service on Sunday is getting lots of youth attendees!
There is an opportunity to integrate more art.
 - d. Doing a good job of following up on new visitors. A little behind on visiting parishioners.
 - e. Brian Buonamici, Chuck Holada and Dan Mottl offered to help with building and grounds
 - f. Greeters in addition to ushers would be nice. Jean will help get them set up. Greeters are more mobile than ushers.
 - g. Hallway has been brightened up with fresh paint and improved lighting to feature mission and ministry display.
 - h. Report accepted as delivered.
8. Discussion Item: Protocol for email usage by the vestry
- a. Penny – good medium for factual information exchange, setting appointments, etc.
Sensitive information should be discussed in person
 - b. E-motion only get recorded in the minutes
 - c. Rev. Eric said this is a difference between house rules/norms versus parliamentary procedures. Need to continually touch base with norms.
 - d. Andy – let's establish the norm as email conversations should be factual or scheduling.
Sensitive items should be discussed in person. AGREED.
 - e. Jim – move to affirm e-motion to budget \$500 for St. Martha's guild expenses reimbursement. PASSED
9. Committee Reports
- a. Parish Life
 - i. Brat Trot was awesome, as was the weather.
 - ii. Clerk to send Thank You note to Jackie Stall for help with Brat Trot. This was so ordered, without objection and many thanks.
 - iii. Oct. 17th will be the Open House soiree for the Art Center. Bring something you created!
 - iv. 2016 is Fidel's 20th anniversary working here
 - v. Emmanuel Family Tree in the hall will portray our past, present and future.
 - vi. Report accepted
 - b. Christian Education
 - i. Look at the nursery! The mural is by Deacon Bill and the rest is Zoey Buonamici's silver Girl Scout project. Motion to thank them and send congratulations to Zoey was passed.
 - c. Building and Grounds
 - i. Need information on what is required to replace slate tiles.

- ii. Project Green Illinois has given us a proposal to convert the whole building to LED (does not include sanctuary since already done there). Expect to make back investment in savings on electricity bills in about three years, depending on the strength of bulb chosen (white versus daylight).
 - iii. Motion to pay up to \$6,000 to Roger Green proposal (which was the cheaper of two sought) from major maintenance for the Project Green Illinois work. This shall be executed later this month (September 21-23) PASSED.
- d. Creative Arts feasibility study
 - i. Have an operating pilot program
 - ii. Discussed administrative structure and parking issue
 - iii. Want a monthly report on finances, attendance, etc. from Rachel
 - iv. Is there a concert contract for Oxford Christ Church cathedral choir performance in April? To discuss with George.
 - v. Jen Vince – we need a formal volunteer administrator for the art center. To be identified.
 - vi. Penny – we need a communications position for the vestry
 - vii. Report accepted.
- e. Stewardship
 - i. Rally point around the Arts Center
 - ii. Need stewardship fundraising goal. Finance committee will tackle this in October.
 - iii. Report accepted.
- f. Emmanuel's Vision and Mission
 - i. Use "Creative Expression" rather than "Creativity"
 - ii. Final mission statement is: "We are an inclusive community committed to connecting all people to Christ through worship, service, and creative expression.
 - iii. Randy – our next challenge is how to live it!
 - iv. Connect, Worship, Serve, Create is the tagline
 - v. New mission statement unanimously accepted.
- g. Closing prayer at 9:02pm
- h. Adjourned at 9:04pm