

Vestry of Emmanuel Church
Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2015

Present: Rev. Eric Thompson, Jim Beyer, Andy Doliff, Jen Enriquez, Bill Hoekwater, Penny Longo, Cindy Mottl, Jamie Workman (Dorren Gertsen- Briand, clerk and Linda Brongel, Treasurer and Marc O'Brien, Finance Committee).

Absent: Rob Ekroth, Randy Valenta

Meeting called to order at 7:09, and led in prayer by Rev. Eric.

Remaining agenda approved.

Prior meeting minutes approved as amended.

Treasurer Report - Linda

- \$25,000 in operating at this time. 10K stock gift,
- Received 10k over income (line 127)
- Christmas service line 103 - 5k from one individual so really only had 3,900 which was under budget.
- No unusual items in December. Have a couple of large things coming through in January, but we received a number of pre-paid pledges in January as well (about \$21k). So our cash position today is better than it was at the end of Dec.
- Made first payment on our insurance which is 10k, two later payments of 5k each.
- Also been waiting for pension fund to bill us for Rev. Eric this month, which will cover two quarters.
- We received our endowment fund contribution to us of 30k, and the 1k from Swetnum fund, so Jan is a good month.
- Did not have to touch the money market fund which vestry had said could happen if necessary at last meeting.

Financial report received and accepted.

2015 budget proposal - Marc

- Initially prepared by financial committee, then edited by additional people.
- Check rummage sale commitment from people to staff it before presenting it as \$3500 income in the budget. – Penny
- BEDS may be moving out. They are looking for a permanent location that they would own rather than rent.

- Bridge Club has dropped one night so the rent has dropped correspondingly. Martial arts and boot camp no longer here as well.
- Endowment fund payment is going up a bit since the market is doing better.
- Expenses
- Rector search cost a bit more than budgeted.
- Saved some on priest salary between MLR and Fr. Eric showing up, had Susan Gerow.
- Nursery workers are a new staff expense. \$2,500 to provide trained adult caretaker for a few hours each week. Hospitality issue.
- Overshot electricity allotment last year, so budgeting less this year. Change to compact fluorescents in the church made a difference.
- Natural gas overshot by 6k. Accommodated in the 2015 budget. So far the winter has been gentle.
- Nicor paid for delivery. 2nd company for actual gas. Two hookups for the bldg. – one for kitchen and one for heating.
- Water usage was a bit low. Village will be raising its rates on this. Have two water meters on the bldg.
- Refuse was over a bit because of Undercroft cleanup.
- Insurance will be a little diff – 22,300. Andy said keep it at 22,5k for extra riders to cover the race etc. They should only be 100 bucks.
- Capital improvements asked for 35000 this year to paint the transepts and fix the roof, but the finance committee felt the resulting deficit was not sustainable at this time. We DO have a 33k reserve fund, but they did not want to use it for that. Should be a capital campaign item.
- Grounds expenses were a bit over. Put it up a bit and want to keep it under control.
- Deanery is organizing a Lenten series again, so expenses will be shared among churches. That will not be anywhere close to 1,000. Jim said drop budget figure to 500 and drop Lenten from description
- Cell phone and professional expenses for Rev. Eric to be dropped by \$500 each.
- Confirmation class did not ask for any \$ this year.
- Youth group expenses have been covered by parents, but trying to reflect in budget with 3k.
- Sunday school budget was trimmed a bit
- Stewardship included attending the TENS conf.
- Assisting clergy is supply priests when Rev Eric is on vacation
- Organ and music are number from George. They were trimmed, but he is learning what is required.
- Altar guild – candles, bread, wine are most frequent expense. Linens need cleaning.
- Parish admin – misc. expenses budgeted 1.400, but were actually 4,000+ last year. Hard to explain why. Must be more careful in accounting what things are from/for.
- Phone down (thanks Tony Enriquez!)
- IT services, internet costs skyrocketing.
- Software and services? Can we use Google for Nonprofits rather than Church Windows?

- What are the website costs, constant contact, etc.? Are they included in the 4k? This needs to be investigated. We also are looking at a security tech for the building. All agreed to drop it to \$2500. Hardware to stay at 3k.
- Advertising money was budget but nothing was attributed to it. Those costs got rolled into events. We will be advertising now so do we need to raise it?
- Hospitality line item added to cover Sunday coffee hour. \$1,500 net (vestry contribution will zero it).
- Diocesan pledge is staying the same. Amount determined in Feb and last payment in Jan so only 11 months. Therefore 18k not 20k
- Outreach has no money in the budget. Finance committee thinks they should be self-funded.

Motion to accept the budget as amended accepted. Discussion:

Rev. Eric – budgets are aspirational things. We want them to be. How do we maintain or sustain – they would just get smaller. So have to be a little aspirational. This is a good stewardship talking point. The question is what is this budget actually doing? Paying for staff is a big thing. What functionality are we getting? Lack of outreach is a good talking point. Declining churches often have budgets that withdraw from outreach. This is about our values. Where do we want to be? What do we want to become? That is what the budget represents, and the deficit.

Bill – I think this budget shows investment rather than cutting.

Jim – spirituality and stewardship are the same thing from bishop at TENS conf. This budget also makes it clear to people what things actually cost. That is new.

Eric – stewardship is discipleship. Jesus talked a lot about money. What we have here is an opportunity to bring together stewardship, membership and discipleship through good leadership.

Jamie – supplies should be specified in the budget. 13k is that number, not 8k.

Rev Eric - \$750 for altar platform so no one will trip added to bldg. and grounds

The budget was passed as amended.

Team Reports

Reports accepted in aggregate.

Warden's Report

Discussion of vestry rotation/seating. Vestry slate – Jen Vince, Randy McKinney, and Mary Pat Anderson

Priest-in-Charge Report

Vestry retreat subject will be standard of conduct for priest, vestry and members.

Feb 27-28th for vestry retreat. Probably here on the Friday evening and elsewhere on Sat.

Old Business

None.

New Business

THRIVE mtg. on Feb 21st.

Meeting adjourned 9:05pm.