

Vestry Meeting Minutes

3/15/2022

The regular meeting of the Emmanuel Episcopal Church of LaGrange was called to order at 7:00 pm on 3/15/2022 via Zoom (due to COVID-19 pandemic) by Reverend David Jackson

Present

Reverend David Jackson (Rector)	Drew Beyer (Senior Warden)	Kathy Lampert (JR Warden)
Dan Mottl (2025)	Diane Coutré-Clark (2025)	Terry O'Neill (2025)
Cliff Egel (2024)	Mary Borge (2024)	
Dorren Gertsen-Briand (2023)	Carry Zaras (2023)	

Non-Voting

Randy Valenta (Treasurer)	
Kathleen Valenta (Clerk)	Judy Staiano (Administrator)

Absent - Andy Dolliff, Leslie Stahulak

I. Formation

- A. Minute of Sanity
- C. Opening Prayer - Kathy (next month - Dorren)
- D. Check-In
- E. Formation - Anxiety and Conflict within a system
- F. Next Meeting - April 26th, 7:00 pm

II. Information

A. Wardens' Reports

B. Rector's Report

- a. Reverend Kate will return on Sunday

C. POP Report -

POP Meeting Summary – March 8, 2022

- As of the beginning of March, we had about \$33,800 in the EEC organ fund and \$29,365 in the FOC fund for a total of about \$63K. Approximately \$15K of this total needs to be held in reserve to make any refunds of Notre Dame tickets. (see below) The remaining loan principal is \$111,271 as of 2/28. Payments are still about \$1450/month.

- Notre Dame Choir Concert– reschedule the concert series for October 2023 and would we still be interested in hosting? Wow!!

- Concert Series: We feel that the series has been a success this year in general. We are making some of the ground back that we lost due to Covid from an attendance standpoint, which of course leads to profitability. We met before the Kaia String Quartet event (with the Park Jr High Prelude Ensemble as the opening act) but I can report that it was really a very nice event and attendance was better than we hoped. We have had a great response when we have had local school groups as opening acts and I hope that we can do even more of that in the future. We had about 70 attendees. We are hoping to bring back refreshments next year and so far, we have booked Jay Warren (silent movie) on 10/28/22, and the Windy City Gay Chorus on 4/23/23. George has spoken with Bobby Brune (Jazz) and are maybe considering something like a Gospel choir. Not sure if we want two choir events in the same season though. I believe we are shooting for a 5-concert series. Thanks to everyone who comes to help or just enjoy the concerts!

- Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 5th at 6:30pm (in person with Zoom option). Please feel free to join us!

III. Discussion

- **COVID protocols**
 - The Governor lifted mask mandates as of Feb 28th. The Diocesan committee met to approve a plan prior to the Governor's announcement. They have passed guidelines on to parishes. As of March 1st, coffee hour and social events including food and drinks may be reinstated. Masks were discussed. The vestry voted to make masks optional. The social distancing pews will remain as well as the pews along the wall. The ionizer is a permanent fixture and will remain. There remains no common cup. We will continue to distribute Communion in stations but try different things with the 8am service. Motion to approve - Cliff Egel and Mary Borge - Motion Approved
- **Wheelchair accessibility options** - [Full Report](#)
- **Vestry retreat** - 4/2 (11 am -3 pm) Emmanuel - Upstairs in Compass Room.
- **Thank you, cards**, - please sign them in the mailroom!

IV. Decisions

- A. **Approve Minutes** ([Full minutes](#)) Motion to accept - Kathy Lampert and Drew Beyer- Motion Approved
- B. **Treasurer's Report** ([Full minutes](#)) Motion to accept - Cliff and Carry- Motion Approved

Operating cash balance of \$87k at February 2022 month-end, \$6k higher than the prior month and \$23 higher than December 2021

General giving income for the month of February was \$17,507

February YTD general giving income of \$58,996 is \$12k over budget. Prepaid Pledges are the main driver of the overage.

Total operating revenue for February was \$20,985.

February YTD total operating revenue of \$99,467k is \$47k over budget.

Even discounting the January Endowment contribution, revenue is \$13k over budget.

Total operating expense for the month of February was \$31,091.

February YTD total operating expense of \$55,407 is \$3k more than plan.

High natural gas prices and a double payment of our heating bill drove expenses.

The organ loan monthly payment of \$1,456 was made on 2/04/2022

In addition, \$13,000 from our general operating funds was used to pay down our loan balance in February.

As a result, the remaining principal balance on the loan is \$111k

Organ fund month-end-cash balance in the Emmanuel bank account was \$26k.

Including the Friends of Casavant (\$29365.02), the total organ fund cash balance was \$56k.

- C. [Updated LOA for Deacon Bill \(again\)](#)
- D. [Approve lawn cutting contract](#)
- E. [Pay Dahme invoices - \\$610 And \\$2000](#)
- F. [Approve tuckpointing work - \\$9,800](#)
- G. [Approve landscaping work - \\$1,105](#)
 - a. Motions to accept the 5 motions above - Dorren Gertsen-Briand and Terry O'Neill- Motion Approved

V. Closing Prayer -Closing Prayer – Led by Rev. David Meeting adjourned at pm 9:05 pm

Minutes submitted by Kathleen Valenta, Clerk