

Emmanuel Episcopal
Church

Vestry Meeting
Minutes

May 4th, 2017

Present: Rev. Ellen Ekevag, Rev. David Jackson, Cindy Mottl, Suzanne Jasiak, Mary Pat Anderson, Dorren Gertsen-Briand, Hendrik Noth, Jean Owen, Vicki Roe, (Larry Brongel - Treasurer) Lisa Enright, Bill Hoekwater, Kathleen Valenta, Mike Bolton, Meredith Gebhart, Judy Staiano (clerk)

Also present Dan Mottl (Chair of Pipe Organ Committee)

Absent:

1. . Formation
 - a. Call to Order – 5.38 pm
 - b. Opening Prayer - yes

Special Organ Fund Vestry Meeting

Discussion for the motion made by Sue Jasiak

“For the Organ Committee to continue fundraising for the deposit of \$30,000.00 and start the contract process, raise \$120,000 by next May (2018) to go forward with the project.”

Ground Rules Presented:-

- One speaker at a time
- Avoid side conversations
- Criticise the idea, not the person
- All questions are good ones
- Use ‘I’ statements rather than ‘you’ ‘they’ ‘we’

Process – The Episcopal is hierarchical, not congregational; the Organ Committee was formed under Father Eric. When a committee is ready to present they should present to the vestry. There was a timing issue to this due to the start date and the need for a deposit with a deadline.

Should capital projects go through the finance committee? No only budgetary issues should go through the finance committee. We should create a process - Rector - Committee - Vestry Congregation.

- “The finance committee was set up as advisory, not for decisions. When large sums are under consideration, we should go to the finance committee for guidance”

- “What is the next payment after the deposit?”

The next payment will be a progress payment, the threshold is June 1st, 2018 and must be met before the work can commence Amount \$120,000. This would complete stage 1.

- “We should have committee’s for other projects such as a new play yard, painting of the building, etc” Each committee should have a goal - if we want something done and we should move on that goal.
We now have a committee for the Organ Fund which is ready to move forward, and we should use that momentum.
- “We have had no significant Capital Campaigns for the last ten years” This is heritage fund-raising, not minor project funding, such as gardening, mulch
- “The organ is an extraordinary gift and we should look after it”
- “We must talk to each other more”
- “How many concerts, services will we be securing for our future – 50 years worth, we should preserve our future”
- “I liked Jenny Ware’s opinion quote ”Lead with confidence not fear” Mike Bolton and Kathy Clark working very hard on our entry process for the inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, and our organ is part of and should continue to reflect that status.
- “Yes, we should do something for the organ, but not this” Are there any other options/ideas. We should look at other projects – our furnace report is that it should be replaced. We should pause and reflect before we make any commitments.
- “Yes we do have possible choices, but used organs have no value, it would if we found one, and it would not fit in our space, or we would have to refurbish the church
- “We need to have better transparency throughout the church, with the staff, committees, leadership” I understand the heritage issue, and would like to see more modern music, not organ music, however we are a historic church – not a modern church.
- Committee’s meet, then task, then commit, then go forward. When you know about organs, the numbers (cost) make sense. This campaign has not been rushed, historically, we as a congregation, have a tough time with change.
- we should ask Meredith “What does the organ mean for the youth of Emmanuel”
- “I think it is worth it, for the sake of our heritage, the great quality of sound and excellent renowned acoustics – we should jump in with all enthusiasm or not do it at all”
- “Jobs are often done under pressure, people should and will come on board, after all what is the risk? We should move forward.

It would be beneficial to have a visual in the church (and outside?) for a strong reminder, encouragement as to the status of the fundraising? In monetary value.

Do we have parish support?

The vestry should lead as one voice. Churches have free will, if the vestry can lead with strength and confidence, and see a capital campaign as “an attainable stretch”, create excitement then anything is possible. Bad energy is not good for congregational growth or momentum. If 10 vestry members can raise \$10,000 that is \$100,000.

Call to the question

“For the Organ Committee to continue fundraising for the deposit of \$30,000.00 and start the contract process, raise \$120,000 by next May (2018) to go forward with the project.”

Majority in favor, only 1 opposed

Meeting adjourned at 6.30pm

Minutes submitted by Judy Staiano