



## VESTRY MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** September 18th

**Attendees:** Rev. Ellen Ekevag, Rev. David Jackson, Suzanne Jasiak, Andy Dolliff, Marc Borge, Dorren Gertsen-Briand, Kathy Lampert, Hendrik Noth, Marc O'Brien, Vicki Roe, (Larry Brongel - Treasurer) Kathleen Valenta, Judy Staiano (clerk),

**Secretary:** Judy Staiano      Call to order 7.02pm

Absent: Jenn Vince, Hendrik Noth, Lily Dolliff, Mike Bolton

Also present: Matt Longo, Adam Harp

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### **Agenda**

#### I. Formation

Opening Prayer by Kathleen Valenta

#### II. Information

August Minutes, **Motion to pass the minutes after one or two amendments, made by Marc O'Brien, seconded by Kathy Lampert. All in favor.**

1. Treasurer's Report, the Garage Sale did well, but cash flow is still not good, we have a large insurance bill looming. Christmas Music? Should we discuss a limit to stay within the budget, difficult for George as musicians have to be booked so far in advance; we should support George as he does so much work for the music program. **A motion was made by Marc O'Brien and seconded by Marc Borge then was made to spend \$500 from the church and for George to fundraise \$500 or more for the Christmas program. All in favor.** We need to be cautious next Easter, we need to limit the number of brass players to save money? Perhaps look for approval before we book them. Is there any way we could take a portion from any concert fees? **Motion to pass the Treasurer's report made by Marc Borge, and seconded by Kathy Lampert. All in favor.**

II. Sue Jasiak thanked Rev Ellen for a wonderful retreat. The POP contract has been finalized, the proposed changes have been made i. limitations - for a lean against the work ii. The work is bonded, and we have no insurance for persons working in the church. Marc O'Brien has agreed to all changes. The contract is in \$USD - in response to a question asked earlier in the year. The wardens will sign the contract and will need an accompanying check from Larry B for the deposit. Kathy Clark and Cindy Mottl are working on getting a financial update on the status of the Organ Pledge campaign i.e how much was pledged and how much has been paid toward that pledge already. Hard to define though as some pledges included donations previously made to the Organ Fund which has been accounted for already. The POP committee will finally vote on the contract, signing and announce it to the congregation. Weiler are expecting the signed contract asap, work will start in April 2020, and will also conclude in 2020. The deposit will almost \$48,000 from the Organ fund, \$13k to Weiler and \$35k to Casavant, approximately. There are lots of fundraising events in progress, both on the calendar already and in planning. 1. Trivia Night for Nov 9<sup>th</sup> ii. Queen of Hearts raffle in planning stage it is a 54 card raffle draw- questions - is it gambling? we need to get a license It can be very lucrative, we would partner with the old Chequers bar, for fun evenings/draws. iii. Silent Movie night - Phantom of the Opera is planned for Oct 19<sup>th</sup>, the organist

and film event will cost \$300, so we only need to sell 30 tickets, the rest will benefit the Organ Fund. A cash bar is planned, and refreshments. \$10 per ticket. The Rafferty's are organizing the programs.

III. Blessing of the Animals planned for Oct 14<sup>th</sup>, the Hinsdale Humane Society will be here. Solemn/First Communion planned for Sept 23<sup>rd</sup>.

IV. Buildings and Grounds. i. Tom Lampert went to an Armed Intruder Discussion/Seminar and said was very interesting. The one 'thing' he thought might be a good plan for the church was a whole of church PA system for alerts of intruders. ii. Tuck-pointing – we had a quote for \$8,000 for all of the tuck-pointing, but perhaps we can do it in small areas at a time to avoid large financial outlay.

### III. Discussion

I. Endowment Committee presentation by Matt Longo and Adam Harp.

The Endowment Committee investigated which 'fund manager' we should invest our funds in. Two main contenders are The Episcopal Diocese of Chicago Common Fund and The Episcopal Church Foundation. Considering all of the research questions and management investment options it was deemed that the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago Common Fund is best suited to our needs. We have quarterly access if ever an emergency here. Keith Kampert at the Diocese will be the Diocese contact. We need to move our funds by Sept 28<sup>th</sup> because of the quarter end. We can only withdraw \$100,000 per day so we should have enough days to transfer all of our funds. We want to do the same with the DEW fund, and will advise the DEW committee of that. The fund report information is all open to the public, very transparent. The fund will be audited now officially as it should have been. The Endowment Committee will still vote on the annual payment amount etc. The question of the roof loan is still under discussion. There is approx. \$693,000 in the endowment fund and approximately \$116,000 in the DEW fund. The fund would need 2 weeks-notice for a withdrawal. The columbarium fund should stay in house because it is used against our line of credit. It currently has \$11,000 plus \$10,000 for the line of credit. We do need to open a brokerage account as we do receive a few stock gifts throughout the year. A document will be drawn up to file and give to donors.

Larry reports the possibility of running out of cash by Nov/Dec., could then use the line of credit but it would need paying back. Is it possible to leave some money in the Money Market Account for emergencies? Known fact that the general fund always suffers when a capital campaign is underway. Can we run a close the gap campaign? Or perhaps use some of the funds from the upcoming fundraising events? The vestry need to vote to move the DEW fund. **The motion was made then by Sue Jasiak to move the DEW fund to the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago Common Fund as recommended by the Committee, seconded by Kathy Lampert. All in favor.**

II. Stewardship plans are underway. Will send congregation a 2 sheet carbonated letter with the stewardship packets. The campaign will start on Oct 21<sup>st</sup>, and in-gathering Sunday will be Nov 18<sup>th</sup>. We are testing a new online giving App called Tithe.ly, where you can pay your pledge directly from your bank to ours, using the App on your mobile phone. Can set amount you want, regularity and which fund you want to donate to. You also see the costs incurred by using the App and can opt to pay those charges too. Cindy Mottl has tested it to date for us. It will mean less cash in the safe for the counters. The motion to test and use Tithe.ly was made by Kathleen Valenta and seconded by Marc O'Brien. All in favour.

### Decision

a. To move the DEW Fund to the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago Common Fund, see discussion.

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Ending Prayer at 9.06pm

**Next Meeting:** October 16<sup>th</sup> - date brought forward on Sept 29<sup>th</sup> to October 9<sup>th</sup>. All notified.