

Vestry Meeting Minutes

5/11/2021

The regular meeting of the Emmanuel Episcopal Church of LaGrange was called to order at 7:00 pm on 5/11/2021 via Zoom (due to Coronavirus-Social Distancing Guidelines) by Reverend David Jackson

Present

Reverend David Jackson (Rector) Marc O'Brien (Senior Warden)

Drew Beyer (Junior Warden)

Cliff Egel (2023)

Matt Longo (2022)

Diane Coutre-Clark (2022)

Dorren Gertsen-Briand (2023)

Kathy Lampert (2023)

Mary Borge (2024)

Andy Dolliff (2024)

*Non-Voting

*Adam Harp - Treasurer

*Judy Staiano - Administrator

*Katheen Valenta - Clerk

Absent – Terry O'Neill, Leslie Stahulak, Hadley Weaver Rivera (Youth Representative)

I. Formation

- A. Minute of Sanity
- B. Opening Prayer – Kathy (Cliff next month)
- C. Check -In

II. Information

A. [April Minutes](#) - Motion to Approve (Kathy Lambert) & 2nd (Cliff Egel) - Motion Approved

B. Treasurer's Report - [Full Report](#) Motion to Approve (Kathy Lampert) & 2nd (Marc O'Brien) - Motion Approved

- 1. Operating cash balance of \$69k at April 2021 month-end, \$3k lower than prior month.
- 2. General giving income for the month of April was \$15k.
- 3. Total operating revenue for the month of April was \$16k.
- 4. Total operating expense for the month of April was \$20k.
- 5. The 3rd and final draw on the organ loan (\$10k) was taken on 4/1/2021.
- 6. Organ fund month-end cash balance in the Emmanuel bank account was \$17k.

III. POP Discussion

- 1. A thank you event for our parishioners is planned for Sunday, June 6th from 2:00 - 4:00 pm. It will be an informal "Show-n- Tell" Celebration with George explaining the changes that have been made. Cake and coffee will be served outdoors.
- 2. Plaques for recognition of giving are being reviewed. All parishioners should look them over to be sure they are accurate. Mock ups will be available through the church e-news and in the back of the church for review.
- 3. Thank you to the parishioners that have continued to contribute toward the \$1450 monthly payment needed.

4. Friends of Cassavant tax status updated.
5. The next meeting will take place on June 3rd at 6:30pm.

IV. Building & Grounds - [Report](#)

1. Window cranks - The teeth are gone from the crank arms in the window handles about 10 will need to be replaced.
2. The color for the Columbarium doors will be brown. Clarence will work on that.
3. All Church clean up is scheduled for May 16th after the service.
4. We will discuss the possibility of a mailbox so that mail is consistently dropped off.

J. Wardens' Reports

1. Marc O'Brien and Andy Dolliff met to discuss the mutual ministry review.
2. Phone Calls: Vestry members are continuing their calls and will contact their people over the next month to touch base.

K. Rector's Report

1. Covid Update - A Covid update was given - see below

III. Discussion

1. Mutual ministry review -
 - a. The vestry will meet at the regular scheduled May vestry meeting to prepare.
 - b. Review will take place on 6/1 @6:30pm via Zoom
2. New COVID-19 guidelines were discussed.
 - a. We remain at the 25% capacity which is about 85 people.
 - b. Services will stay at one service for now with the plan to change when the choir resumes in the fall with 2 services.
 - c. When we resume two services, the Vestry (or volunteers) will likely be responsible for sanitizing in between.
 - d. Choirs can resume with many guidelines but we won't implement that just yet.
 - e. Woodwind instruments are allowed with certain restrictions.
 - f. Coffee Hour may resume again. It will be held outside. A basket of individually wrapped treats will be available for children.
3. Service times
 - a. Service times discussions were held. The time will remain the same for now at 9:15. The vestry discussed the views of parishioners that feel the 9:15 time is difficult for some of the the 8:00 church goers. They have scheduled events that they prefer to do early and are doing their best to adjust for the time being. The 9:15 service time can also be difficult for 10:00 church goers as they have children or parents to marshall earlier to get to the 9:15 service. The vestry recognizes that this is not ideal for many people and thank parishioners for working with the current schedule until fall at which time they hope to change back to two services.
4. Results from the formation survey were discussed.
 - a. Parishioners recognize that formation and continued growth are important.

- b. Specific programing was discussed. Some respondents answered completely opposite regarding topics like church history. Parishioners feel spiritual growth, academic learning, and basic Church information are all important so it appears that a mix of programs are what is needed. A few future topic ideas were discussed.
- c. Rev. David invited the vestry to share in the formation and to consider presenting topics.
- d. One vestry member suggested that the Education For Ministry Class (EFM), which meets weekly, consider doing some type of presentation.

IV. Decisions

- 1. The vestry voted to amend the parish re-opening plan to allow for 6-foot distancing during the service instead of 10-foot distancing and seating every other row of pews instead of every third.

V. Closing Prayer - Closing Prayer – Led by Rev. David

Meeting adjourned at 8: 30.

Minutes submitted by Kathleen Valenta, Clerk