



ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS
E P I S C O P A L C H U R C H

Vestry Meeting Minutes

Date: September 12, 2024
Meeting Open: 6:33 p.m.
Next Meeting: October 10, 2024

Submitted by: Deanna-Marie DiPirro
Adjourned: 7:42 p.m.

Present:

Fr. Nick Evancho	Carol Northrup
Irene Ehde, Sr. Warden	Sharon Jones - ABSENT
Melodie McEvoy, Jr. Warden - *Via Zoom	Beth Boron
Dawn Farquharson	Ellen Valvo - *Via Zoom
Jerry Cahill	Mark Korzelius
Amy Heist	Jeanne Percival - Guest
Joe Childs	

1. Fr. Nick Evancho led the Vestry in prayer.
2. Call for Additional Business
 - Amy Heist requested to give an update on the new AA group looking to use our space.
3. Replacement of Vestry Seat
 - As listed in the by-laws, Section D: Duties of Vestry Persons:
 - Remaining active by attending all Vestry meetings unless specifically excused by the chair. (Following three consecutive unexcused absences, the Vestry shall declare the member inactive. The Clerk shall notify the member of his/her inactive status in writing. If by the following meeting the member has taken no action to reinstate himself, the Vestry shall act to replace him/her.)
 - Fr. Nick sent a letter to Sharon Jones and there was no response.
 - Fr. Nick has nominated Jeanne Percival to replace this Vestry seat.
 - The Vestry elected Jeanne Percival to fill this Vestry seat by a unanimous vote.
4. Review/Acceptance of August Minutes
 - Fr. Nick asked if there were additions or corrections to the minutes of the August 8, 2024, meeting, and there were none at this time.
 - Melodie McEvoy requested to have the minutes sent out to the Vestry in a timelier fashion, such as 2 weeks after the meeting. Fr. Nick stated that this will be corrected moving forward.
 - Jerry Cahill motioned to accept the August minutes as written, and Dawn Farquharson seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted by a unanimous vote.
5. Review/Acceptance of August Financial Reports
 - Fr. Nick stated that the profit from the Moonlight Serenade was \$3060, and this amount will be included in the September Financial Report.
 - This year so far, we are in the positive \$3865.35, as opposed to last year at this time, we were in the red \$10, 567.46.

- Major expenses in August were the Test and Maintenance of the Backflow Device, and an extermination fee for hornets at the Rectory.
- We received the check from the Hartford, which will be included in the September Financial Report as well.
- We received approximately \$2000 from Church Insurance for the roof leak at the Rectory, and the repair cost was approximately \$1600.
- The next large expense will be the elevator inspection, which should cost approximately \$1200-\$1500.
- Amy Heist motioned to accept the financial reports for the month of August, and Jeanne Percival seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

6. New Business/Reports

a) Rectory Roof Leak Repair

- Fr. Nick stated that the roof repair is now complete.
- The bill from Gold Construction was \$1500 and the dry wall and paint were \$175.
- As stated earlier, we received \$2000 from Church Insurance for this claim.

c) Budget Committee Request

- Fr. Nick stated that in previous years, a committee was formed to go through the budget in detail, and then present it to the Vestry.
- Fr. Nick stated that the figures that are needed from the diocese will not be available until after Convention.
- Fr. Nick stated that the debatable items each year seem to be:
 - Estimate of giving
 - Estimate of the Chicken BBQ revenue
 - Staff compensation
- The idea of a Stewardship Campaign was discussed since there has not been one for a few years. Members of the Vestry want to ensure that parishioners know that beyond a financial contribution, there are many that have “time, talent, and treasure” to give. The Vestry also discussed changing the time of year for the campaign. It was decided to keep this as an Agenda item to be discussed for the spring.
- The Budget Committee will consist of:
 - Fr. Nick
 - Paula Cramer
 - Irene Ehde
 - Melodie McEvoy
 - Beth Boron

b) Stutelage Camp Building Use Proposal

- Fr. Nick received an inquiry for building usage by a colleague of Allie Porter. They run summer camps that are educational in nature. In addition to their main location in East Amherst, they hold camps at three satellite locations - 579 Banquets in North Tonawanda, Clarence Zion Lutheran Church in Clarence Center, and The Vine Wesleyan Church in Depew. They are looking to expand in 2025 and are interested in renting space for next year Monday - Friday from June 23rd - August 29th, 2025 (with the exception of July 4th).

- The Vestry inquired if we would be covered by insurance and Fr. Nick stated that we would because we have an umbrella policy, which also includes the pavilion that we would be able to offer them in addition to the downstairs space.
- Fr. Nick will reach out to them to find out more details.

d) Jeanne Suski Contract Amendment

- Fr. Nick stated that Jeanne Suski has requested a temporary change to her schedule. She will be enrolled in a course one Sunday a month from September to April and will have someone there in her place for the MIDI.
- The Vestry discussed Jeanne's request, including holidays that would be affected, and the choir schedule.
- The Vestry approved this request, as Jeanne Suski is an integral part of St. Martin's.

6. Additional Business

- Fr. Nick added that this Saturday, September 14 is Bishop Sean's going away event at Salvatore's. Everyone is welcome to attend. They will be presenting Bishop Sean with a gift. Fr. Nick stated that for his gift, they have commissioned a crosier designed by Henry Schmidt, who is a member of the Roycroft Artisan Community, to be carved with the able assistance of another local artisan. The piece will display both the Seal of the Office of the Presiding Bishop and an image of the travelers on the Road to Emmaus from the Gospel according to Luke. This has been one of Bishop Sean's favorite biblical stories and has served as an inspiration for his vision for our diocesan partnership. A framed artistic rendering of the crosier will be presented at the farewell dinner on September 14, and the actual crosier will be presented in the near future, once complete. Fr. Nick is one of the individuals that is accepting donations for this gift. If you are interested in donating, please see Fr. Nick. The article with this information and the link to donate will also be in the St. Martin's newsletter again this week.
- Fr. Nick discussed Diocesan Convention, which will take place on Saturday, October 12, and how different it will look because it will be the first time without Bishop Sean. Discussion continued, including diocesan staff changes, the future of the Partnership, and the future election of a new bishop.
- Mark Korzelius is still looking to form a committee to discuss the opportunity we have for the pavilion to be rented and generate additional income for St. Martin's. Mark will schedule a meeting for October. The committee will consist of:
 - Mark Korzelius
 - Fr. Nick
 - Melodie McEvoy
 - Eric Boron
- Amy Heist gave an update for the Keys of the Kingdom AA group that requested to use our building for meeting space on Wednesday evenings. They have been approved to use our space, and their first meeting will be Wednesday, October 2.
- Discussion took place regarding the Thursday night AA group and the placement of their totes. Fr. Nick will set up a meeting to discuss options with the liaison of the group.
- Discussion took place as to whether Fr. Nick's title is still Priest-in-Charge. Joe Childs added that he discovered during his time on the Search Committee, that in order to hire a full-time Rector, the parish must have enough funds for 3 years' salary. Fr. Nick added that he currently holds multiple diocesan positions and will most likely pick up more in addition to continuing his

- position at St. Martin's.
- Beth Boron inquired about having the outgoing Vestry members nominate parishioners for the next election. Please inform Fr. Nick if you know of anyone that is interested. Outgoing Vestry members are:
 - Jerry Cahill
 - Dawn Farquharson
 - Amy Heist
 - *Jr. Warden position
 - Jeanne Percival requested Fr. Nick offer a closing prayer for Leah Mayer, the 8th grade student who was hit by a car and killed last night.

Next Vestry Meeting

- The next Vestry Meeting will be on Thursday, October 10, 2024, at 7pm.

7. Adjourn

- Motion to adjourn was offered by Joe Childs and seconded by Beth Boron. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Attachments:

1. Vestry Meeting Agenda – September 12, 2024 – Fr. Nick Evancho
2. August Financial Statement – Mike Somer
3. Vestry Meeting Minutes – August 8, 2024 – Deanna-Marie DiPirro