



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 14, 2023
Meeting Open: 7:03 p.m.
Next Meeting: October 12, 2023

Submitted by: Deanna-Marie DiPirro
Adjourned: 7:58 p.m.

Present:

Fr. Nick Evancho
Pete Schlau, Sr. Warden
Irene Ehde, Jr. Warden
Melodie McEvoy
Allie Porter
Kris Dodge

Dawn Farquharson - ABSENT
Jerry Cahill - *Via Zoom
Amy Heist
Joe Childs - *Via Zoom
Carol Northrup
Sharon Jones

1. Fr. Nick Evancho led the Vestry in prayer.
2. Call for Additional Business
 - Jack & Jill Lease
 - Bringing Communion to the Choir
3. Review/Acceptance of June Minutes
 - Fr. Nick asked if there were additions or corrections to the minutes of the August 3, 2023 meeting, and none were stated.
 - Melodie McEvoy motioned to accept the August minutes as written, and Amy Heist seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted by a unanimous vote.
4. Review/Acceptance of August Financial Reports – *from Mike Somer
 - Fr. Nick wanted to go through the financial report before opening it up for discussion.
 - Fr. Nick stated that there was a negative balance due to:
 - Gutter project – should be a Capital expense.
 - Additional water used for grass around the Pavilion project - should be a Capital expense.
 - Fr. Nick also stated that YTD inflow is up \$10,000 from last year.
 - Pete Schlau stated that the Tops card program has changed, and the contribution percentage is now less, and doesn't seem to be profitable anymore.
 - Pete Schlau also advised that we are careful with spending for the remainder of the year.
 - As no other questions or comments arose, Amy Heist motioned to accept the financial report for the month of August as written, and Sharon Jones seconded the motion. The financial report for August was accepted by a unanimous vote.
 - Fr. Nick will follow up with Mike Somer to move the two items mentioned previously to the Capital Account.

5. New Business

a) State of the Capital Drive

- i. Church Roof Replacement – Kris Dodge stated that the roof replacement project will begin on 9/18 and continue through 9/26, with the materials coming tomorrow. Kris has scheduled lunches for Jeff Miller's crew for the duration of the project.
- ii. Fundraising Update – Fr. Nick stated that we were awarded the Diocesan grant that we applied for in the amount of \$10,000, and it will be added to the Capital Drive when it is received. Thank you to the committee members who worked on this grant.
 - a. Cruise – Fr. Nick stated that there are 44 cabins sold for the January trip and that up to \$8800 may be paid to the Capital Drive in 2024. Additional fundraising ideas were discussed, and it was decided to not start any other fundraisers until next year.

b) State of the Episcopal Church

- Fr. Nick was recently speaking to Bishop Sean and they were discussing the current state of the church. There are currently 6300 Episcopal parishes in the Continental U.S. 71% of those parishes have an average Sunday attendance of less than 50. Right now, we currently have 70% attendance. Fr. Nick wanted to reassure us that "we are doing well".
- Pete Schlau wanted to add that St. Martin's Blessing Box has been such a great outreach for the community and wanted to thank Anne Dietterich and Amy Heist for all their hard work. And the new Pet Pantry is going well too!

c) Medical Leave for Sexton

- Dave Northrup, our current sexton, will be having knee surgery, with an expected recovery time of 3 months. Fr. Nick will contact Church Insurance Group for more information.
- Allie Porter may be interested in filling in for this position temporarily. Sharon Jones and Amy Heist also offered to help if needed.

d) Christian Ed

- Fr. Nick stated that Anne Dietterich has offered to head the program. Many thanks to Anne!

e) Tree Removal

- Fr. Nick was inquiring if anyone has a personal attachment to the tree that is not doing well in the circle in front of the church. He is looking to have it removed. Pete Schlau added that there is another stump to add to this project as well.
- Kris Dodge stated that there is a Rectory Landscaping Project that will take place on September 25 at 5:30pm. There is a tentative design, with the cost totaling approximately \$1500. Any assistance or donations are greatly appreciated.

f) Movie Night

- Fr. Nick discussed St. Martin's Movie Night. We have a projector and sound system. The date is undecided but will be announced shortly.

6. Additional Business

- a) Discussion took place regarding serving Communion upstairs in the Choir Loft on Sundays in which the choir is singing. The Vestry discussed different ways to solve the issue. Fr. Nick stated

that he is willing to discuss with anyone that would like to, but he must follow the prayer book and liturgics for the service.

- b) Pete Schlau stated that the electrical for the Pavilion has come in at a slightly higher amount than originally estimated and does include motion lights for safety. Sharon Jones motioned to amend the prior budget for the electrical project to include an additional \$500. Amy Heist seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

7. Adjourn

- Motion to adjourn was offered by Amy Heist and seconded by Sharon Jones. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Next Vestry Meeting

- The next Vestry Meeting will be our summer meeting on Thursday, October 12, 2023 at 7pm.

Attachments:

1. Vestry Meeting Agenda – September 14, 2023 – Fr. Nick Evancho
2. August Financial Statement – Mike Somer
3. Vestry Meeting Minutes – August 3, 2023 – Deanna-Marie DiPirro