

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany

Vestry Meeting Minutes

December 19, 2021

In Attendance:

Vestry - Shelle Bryant, Sara Cushing, Linda Ryder-Wolf, Lisa Carlson, Erin Braden, Paul Hinson, Richard Messner, Bert Bender, Peter Dodge, & Liefy Smith
Clergy - Amy Dills-Moore & Nicole Lambelet
Ex officio - Randy Shearin & Sherry Wallace

Absent: John Wierwille, Lisa Daily, & Ann Fowler

Shelle Bryant provided lunch.

Meditation:

Peter read a poem and Nicole led us in lectio divina.

Priest in Charge's Report:

We continue to reach out to the potential new vestry members nominated by the current vestry.

The Christmas Eve Worship Schedule (and VPOD schedule) is as follows:

3:30 (Erin)

5:30 (Peter)

10:30 (Richard)

We need more tech volunteers to be able to stream those services.

The Epiphany Celebration is Thursday Jan 6 at 6pm. It will be Eucharist with Baptism (of Mira Gross) and, thanks to a lot of work on Nicole's part in the absence of a children's director, a pageant. We are evaluating what to do about our feast day feast after the service based on increasing COVID numbers.

The vestry's January meeting is Jan 16 with both new vestry and outgoing vestry. We need a volunteer to bring lunch that day.

Our Annual Meeting is Jan 23 at 11:00 – 12:00 noon. There will be no Adult Formation that day.

The vestry retreat is Jan 28-30. We are still evaluating whether that will be at Camp Mikell or on our campus based on COVID numbers.

Associate Priest's Report:

The nursery is almost back in order for Christmas Eve services.

Nicole is working with a group of parishioners to bring back Children's Formation. We hope to have Godly Play stories again in January.

The youth group shared a meal and the shoes service project with youth from the Ismaili community and Decatur High students.

Twenty people attended the young adult meal.

Gender 101 training is scheduled for Monday, January 31 at 6pm.

Consent Agenda:

Approval of the November vestry meeting and gifts over \$100 were included as part of the consent agenda. All voted to accept.

Financial Report:

Randy said that for the month of November, income exceeded expenses by \$5,549.

The Finance Committee recommended that funds donated to honor Robert Ashmore be added to the endowment account and tracked separately using a subaccount. These funds will be used to support adult education. Linda seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.

The Finance Committee recommended that the part of Arlen Gray's bequest not in the Endowment fund and left to the vestry's discretion be used to purchase kitchen appliances as needed and update the A/V system in the Nave, with any remaining funds being held for a future need. Linda seconded, and all voted in favor.

The Finance Committee moved that the Diocesan loan continue to be paid from the capital campaign resources for the coming year. Erin seconded, and all voted in favor.

Old Business:

Placement of Angel Statue: Liefy presented several options for moving the angel statue currently located on the hill in the woods near the outdoor space for the nursery school. After a discussion, no motion was made, so no vote was taken.

New Business:

The Little Forest Preschool wants to expand to full-day programming for older students. Many questions were raised (e.g., how many students, would lunch be served, what codes might be needed). Amy will get clarification from the diocese and answers from the preschool on these issues before the matter can be considered further.

As the Covid omicron variant increases, ushers should be reminded to ask people to keep their masks on during services. We'll explore the requirements for vesting when children are present in the vesting room.

The meeting ended with noonday prayer.

Online resolution:

On December 9, 2021, Bert made the following motion by email:

That the Vestry of the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany authorize the purchase and installation of a Koolaire KT-0300 Ice Kube Machine from West Georgia Commercial Icemakers to be installed on top of our existing Scotsman bin, for a cost of \$3,600, all in, installed, before tax.

Shelle seconded. There were eight votes by email in favor of the motion and none against, and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Sherry Wallace
Clerk of the Vestry.

Vestry Reports for January 18, 2022

Adult Formation – Paul Hinson

Through the end of January we're enjoying a multi-session series on the Gospel of Luke led by our beloved priests Amy and Nicole. Following that series, Sunday mornings in Lent beginning February 6 (through April 3) Amy and Nicole will lead us in a class entitled "Returning to our Roots: Exploring Who We Are as Episcopalians." In addition to Amy and Nicole leading segments of this series, we'll also be joined by several guest presenters from around the diocese and beyond as we explore our Episcopal and Anglican history, heritage, theology and practices. Also in Lent we'll offer a class with New Testament scholar Carol Newsome likely to be an evening weeknight class — we're really excited about Carol's involvement and that class promises to be something special — more information on that will be forthcoming soon. Later in the year during the season of Easter, Amy and Paul Hinson will co-teach a class on Faith and Doubt which we hope will lead to some rich discussions around doubt as a necessary and even welcome part of faith.

Building and Grounds — Bert Bender

Looking forward to February and Groundhog Day, but fear that it means life will become the movie where Bill Murray relives February 2 over and over again. And over again.

Issues on Front Burners (FB), Back Burners (BB) and On The Counter (OTC): This month's updates, resetting to 12 projects, effectively unchanged since December, so no ups ↑ or downs ↓. Watch this space.

- 1++++) (unchanged) **Nave Ductwork and HVAC and Office/Bathroom HVAC Combined Plans (FB):** Bid analysis is underway, more to present live on Tuesday. Reaction from Tim North, our Mechanical Engineer reaction: *"everything is expensive now – unfortunately. Plus - everyone is soooooo busy now it seems."*
- 2) (unchanged) **Lighting (FB):** Good News! Lighting Technologies completed walkthrough with John Yntema and is finalizing Estimate for needed lighting repairs. New possible element: Bill Graves suggested pendant lighting over side Altar using "mini" versions of the pendant lighting hanging from the Nave ceiling. Liefy helping, others likely will join.
- 3) (unchanged) **Irrigation Plumbing Extensions (FB):** DeKalb permits approved, donor funds posted, "go" direction given to Ayres Plumbing. Pipes have been drilled underground from the new Irrigation Meter and have sprouted in four locations where the hydrant equipment will attach to complete the project.
- 4) (unchanged) **Kitchen Appliances (FB):** Icemaker in. Dishwasher and Freezer bids are requested. Exhaust fan belts/motors fixed/replaced.
- 5) (unchanged) **Baptistry Doors Punch List (BB):** Under consideration: bigger gutters and/or canopy over doors – plus canopy over undercroft – with inquiry to be made at the time we engage the undercroft design/contractors for that nearby work.
- 6) (unchanged) **Building an' Grounds (BANG) Structure, or Emerging Endless List of "Things to Do" (FB):** Will be part of the Report to the Parish.
- 7) (unchanged) **Courtyard Fence (BB)** negotiations with the carpenter bees have failed, as have sanctions, but we won't engage militarily, so other solutions will be considered in coming months.
- 8) (unchanged) **Maintenance Contracts (Inventory of Systems) (BB)** some incremental progress at archive.
- 9) (unchanged) **Georgia Power Ponce Transformer Replacement (OTC):** Waiting for construction to start (unknown timing). When they start work, just remember that we got \$6K from GA Power in the spring of '21.

- 10) (unchanged) **Playground Reconstruction (OTC)**: Invoices submitted to insurance – awaiting final payout. Maybe picnic table plan, but no pressure on that right now.
- 11) (unchanged) **Memorial Garden Plaques (OTC)**: Looks like all is going well, pending the walls getting stoned.
- 12) (unchanged) **Landscaping Company (OTC)**: When more urgent stuff addressed, will seek input and review.
- Look for some minor roof leak repair to rise on the list.

Community Engagement - Erin Braden

The refugee ministry team attended a volunteer orientation with New American Pathways this past week, a requirement along with background checks for all volunteers working with the family. We could be matched as early as one to two weeks from now. Once we know the family we are sponsoring, we will be able to align family needs with volunteer commitments.

Sally Walker and Anne Kerner are doing a great job coordinating the feeding ministry once per month for Gateway Shelter, and are always looking to expand the volunteer base.

Membership - Liefy Smith

- At our meeting next week, we will begin to formulate more ways for committee members to reach out to newcomers around the Connect part of Invite, Welcome, Connect.
- As of early January, there are three additional households who are new members.

Pastoral Care - Lisa Carlson and Lisa Daily

Chair: David Draper

The Pastoral Care Committee continues the card ministry to those parishioners who are added to the prayer list and in December sent cards to older parishioners and those in special situations. The COH training resumed January 10 with the class "Confidentiality and Debriefing the First Practice Visit" led by Nicole. On January 17 Amy will present the "Understanding Family Systems" class. COH members will make a total of three practice visits before being commissioned as lay pastoral caregivers in the church.

Racial Justice - Erin Braden

Co-Chairs, Erin Braden & Kay Lee

The Sacred Ground Dialogue Circles will meet for five more sessions beginning this month, finishing up later this spring.