

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany

Vestry Meeting Minutes

January 18, 2022

In Attendance:

Vestry - Shelle Bryant, Sara Cushing, Linda Ryder-Wolf, Erin Braden, Paul Hinson, Richard Messner, Bert Bender, Lisa Daily, Peter Dodge, & Liefy Smith
Clergy - Amy Dills-Moore & Nicole Lambelet
Ex officio - Ann Fowler, Randy Shearin & Sherry Wallace
Visitors – Kaylie Gibbs, Paige Howell, Susan Ashmore, & April Maa

Absent: Lisa Carlson & John Wierwille

Meditation: Amy read a passage by Barbara Brown Taylor on God's calling.

Priest in Charge's Report:

Amy said we continue to evaluate the best worship schedule based on the temperature in the nave, the COVID numbers, and the needs of the parish. The vestry discussed at length various options of how to proceed and most felt that moving online until the end of February would be the best of the imperfect options. We will also offer a 9am abbreviated eucharist service in the parish hall during the month of February. Our main service at 10 am will move to Zoom. In March we hope to move back to worship in the nave at 10am with that service being livestreamed on YouTube and Zoom.

Megan Swett is a seminarian from Epiphany who is in her second year at Candler and seeking endorsement to continue in the process as a candidate for ordination. The vestry unanimously endorsed her to move forward and will come to the church office to sign her paperwork for the diocese.

Amy welcomed our vestry nominees Susan Ashmore, Kaylie Gibbs, Paige Howell, and April Maa and offered our gratitude for our outgoing vestry members Shelle Bryant, Sara Cushing, Linda Ryder-Wolf, and Lisa Carlson as well as Ann Fowler, Senior Warden, Immediate Past. Shelle will remain next year in the position of Senior Warden, Immediate Past. Amy asked that members send their nominees for junior warden to Erin and Amy by January 21. The vestry will vote on those nominees by email.

Amy asked for all vestry members who have reports for annual meeting be sure to turn them in. She is looking forward to seeing everyone at the annual meeting January 23.

Associate Priest's Report:

Nicole encouraged the vestry to sign up for the New Face of Gender training on Monday night, January 31, at 6 pm. It will be recorded.

Consent Agenda:

Approval of the December 2021 vestry minutes and gifts over \$100 were included as part of the consent agenda. All voted to accept.

Financial Report:

Randy reported that for the month of December, income exceeded expenses by \$20,102. The year ended with a surplus of over \$90,000.

New Business:

2022 Budget: Richard presented the 2022 budget. The vestry reviewed and discussed it at length. In order to allow the vestry to review the budget in more depth, they will vote on the budget at a later date. Lisa motioned and Bert seconded that we present a preliminary budget at Annual Meeting and discuss the budget further at the Vestry Retreat. All voted in favor and motion passed.

Bert gave an update on the HVAC project. Bidders came to the walkthrough and are now submitting bids. George Smith has been invaluable in this process.

Bert proposed that the Church of the Epiphany be authorized to engage Lighting Technologies to undertake various lighting repair work under the terms described in the document entitled "Lighting Technologies Proposal Epiphany January 18 Revision." Shelle seconded. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

The Parish meeting will be January 23, 2022, in the parish hall and on Zoom.

The Vestry Retreat will be January 28-29 at the church.

The meeting ended with evening prayer.

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 and over and over and over and over 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.

**Epiphany Annual Meeting
January 23, 2022**

The Annual Report which includes the outline and reports for the Annual Meeting is posted on the Epiphany website.

The Annual Meeting, held on Zoom, was begun with prayer. The first item of business was the election of new Vestry members. Susan Ashmore, Kaylie Gibbs, Paige Howell, and April Maa had been nominated for Vestry. A poll was taken online with 63 communicants voting in favor of accepting the nominees and zero opposed. Therefore, the nominees were elected.

Shelle Bryant, Sara Cushing, Linda Ryder-Wolf, and Lisa Carlson have completed their terms and were thanked for the many contributions they made. Shelle Bryant will remain as Senior Warden Immediate Past. Erin Braden has agreed to serve as Senior Warden this year.

The remaining items discussed in Annual Meeting are printed in the Annual Report.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Wallace
Secretary for Annual Meeting

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany

Vestry Retreat Minutes

January 29, 2022

In Attendance:

Vestry - Erin Braden, Paul Hinson, Richard Messner, Bert Bender, Lisa Daily, Peter Dodge, Liefy Smith, Kaylie Gibbs, Paige Howell, Susan Ashmore, & April Maa

Clergy - Amy Dills-Moore & Nicole Lambelet

Ex officio - Shelle Bryant & Randy Shearin

Absent: John Wierwille & Sherry Wallace

The following business items were addressed at the Vestry Retreat:

The Finance Committee presented a budget and made a motion asking the vestry to approve. After discussion, the budget was approved as presented.

The Rector presented more information to the vestry regarding Little Forest Preschool's preliminary exploration toward beginning an elementary school in addition to the existing preschool. Discussion ensued, the general thrust of which was that the parish sees this as potentially burdensome involving campus improvements and changes that the parish is not ready to support. Consensus was reached to decline the offer of our space to Little Forest for such an expansion. The rector will convey that discussion to them.

Building and Grounds presented the results of the bids from contractors bidding on the HVAC work and recommended McKenney be engaged as the contractor. B&G moved that that the vestry approve the recommendation. Erin seconded the motion. The vestry approved the motion unanimously.

These minutes were taken by Paul Hinson.

Respectfully submitted,
Sherry Wallace
Clerk of the Vestry