

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT OCTOBER 22, 2019, VESTRY MINUTES

Action/Date Due
for Review/
Assigned To

Date: October 22, 2019 **Time Started:** 5:00 pm **Time Ended:** 7:15 pm

Next Regular Meeting: 5:00pm, Tuesday, **November 19**, 2019. Vestry reports due by **Saturday, November 16**.

Members Present: Barbara Moloney, Senior Warden; Jim Woodruff, Junior Warden; Debra Alexander; Loraine Hilty; Mary Maupin; Adam Reda; Mary Jo Sparrow

Members Absent: Cristi Johnson; Donna Turnbaugh; Michael Smith

Other Attendees: David McNair, Rector; Bill Sewell, Treasurer; Tyler Jones, Deacon; Lorrie Cooper, Clerk

DISCUSSION/FINDINGS/CONCLUSIONS

AGENDA ITEM: **Welcome, Opening Prayer** (*David McNair*)

AGENDA ITEM: **Vestry Minutes Approval: September** (*Clerk, Lorrie Cooper*)

Both sets of Vestry notes were approved as written.

AGENDA ITEM: **Review of September Financial Reports** (*Bill Sewell*)

September Finances: receipts of \$13,564, which is 76% of budgeted amount. Good showing for open offering, in line with past years.

Income and expense: most items in line with budget, with this exception: over budget with office supplies, due to costly printer ink.

Financial Assistance fund: We have raised \$5000, which was the goal.

Proposed 2020 Budget: Hoping income will reach slightly above budgeted amount of \$191,000. Expect operation deficit of about \$7000. A lean budget is being proposed. Need to reach a break-even budget with \$190,000. The concern: the budget is based on a certain number of pledge units, but 10 will not be pledging due to death or relocation. As a result, 20 to 23 thousand dollars will not be there. New pledges are expected, but it's not certain we will reach a balanced budget. We need to be realistic and may have to make some tough choices.

September
Minutes approved
with no changes:
Sept. 12
Sept. 30

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The Vestry makes the decision regarding the budget, not the congregation. This will happen in January, at which time the pledge situation will have more clarity. November 17, Ingathering Sunday, is when pledges are received.

AGENDA ITEM: Jr. Warden's Report *(Jim Woodruff)*

The workdays were a success!

1. The Saturday workday in early October almost completed the front bank. Most of the plants have been settled into the soil as planned. Although Beacon of Hope could not send folks to help, they are eager to try again in the future. Thanks go to Ed McNally and Tom Panek for spearheading this project.
2. The dishwasher needed screws for the rinse arm.
3. Mountain Air Mechanical is our choice to use for maintenance, twice per year at \$742.98. This is \$445 less than Austin Heating and AC would charge.
4. Still no report to share from the three-member Property Committee.
5. The piano room is less stuffed. I don't know who took on the task of thinning out the contents in order that the space will be less a storage room than its intended use as a piano practice room for the choir.

AGENDA ITEM: Sr. Warden's Report *(Barbara Moloney)*

Regarding the Safety Committee Report: (the report is still a draft.)

- Need wireless cameras that will connect with the ECHS wi-fi and can operate during the service.
- External doors should be locked fifteen minutes after the start of the service.
- Ushers need to check the hallways and view the parking lot during service. They should stand near the door in order to monitor the church surroundings.

The above are suggestions at this point. Vestry needs to figure out whether to do what. After discussion about the effect of possible danger to the ushers and whether potential threats might disturb their sense of security, it may be necessary to put monitoring the church safety during the service on someone who accepts the emotional challenges. This possibly would be a new ministry and is a big decision. More feedback and information are necessary for better understanding. Confronting dangerous intruders ought not be the responsibility of the ushers, who may not realize this would be involved when they volunteer for this ministry.

New modifications to the survey have been hand-written in. Question 4 has generated the most interest.

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Concerning wording on the survey, there was much discussion around the difference between “Vestry Rep” and “Vestry Liaison,” and what might be alternatives. “Vestry Contact” is another option. Should this question be added to the survey: "Do you feel safe?"
Another option: "Do you feel welcomed, safe, and affirmed at ECHS?"

AGENDA ITEM: Rector’s Report *(David McNair)*

1. Pastoral Care issues:

- * Bob Johnson had a successful partial knee replacement surgery on Oct. 21. He is at Mission Hospital and expects to be released Wednesday to go home.
- * Jack Poisson is home from Care Partners and regaining his strength. Ginny reported that he spent some time back at work last week.
- * Esther Moriarty is home after being hospitalized at Mission Hospital for about two weeks. She was approved for a promising trial leukemia drug, but she cannot begin using it until her white blood cell count is down.
- * Cal Wilson continues to reside at Aston Park Health Care Center in Asheville and remains about the same.
- * We continue to remember the Yeakley family in our prayers. Lucas Yeakley is now living in a residential support program for adolescents.

2. Visitors to ECHS since our last Vestry meeting: One set of visitors, friends of Ruth Bendik. They will be contacted by someone from the Vestry. *[Contact info yet to be received by the Clerk]*

3. Our Episcopal Diocesan Convention is scheduled for Nov. 8-9, 2019, at Trinity Episcopal Church in Asheville. We are grateful that Amanda and Loraine Hilty have agreed to be our delegates. They have been elected by the Vestry to perform this role.

4. ECHS Stewardship Ingathering will be on Sunday Nov. 17. Our Stewardship packets will be handed out this Sunday (Oct. 27) and then mailed the following week to those who did not receive one.

5. New Members: The following people have decided to join ECHS:

- Happy McCloud (coming from Holy Cross Episcopal Church, Tryon);
- Charlie and Elizabeth Kinsey and their children: Charlie III, William (Beecher) and Eleanor, Susan and Douglas Peacock;
- Harold and Anne Toney.

6. Thanksgiving: Stephanie McCullough and her children are again hosting a Thanksgiving Day potluck at ECHS on Nov. 28, 2:00pm. Anyone may join them but should notify Stephanie of their plan to attend.

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7. The Black Jesus Book Group will next meet Thursday, Nov. 14 at 6:30 p.m. at ECHS. We will be discussing the article which appeared in the June 2014 issue of *The Atlantic* entitled: "The Case for Reparations" by Ta-Nahisi Coates. The article is free and can be found here:

<https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2014/06/the-case-for-reparations/361631>

8. We need four nominees for new Vestry to fill those rotating off in 2020. (Three regular members and new Senior Warden.) Vestry was asked to think about potential persons for further discussion in upcoming meetings.

9. Where to go with discernment?

The next step: Listening sessions with congregation. Holy Listening. There should be two sessions, in order to provide to everyone in the congregation an opportunity to speak.

The timeframe: Advent is time of waiting, preparing for God, quieting down. Then the meetings can be scheduled in January, possibly the second and fourth weeks, keeping in mind January's weather may interfere.

Ty's Collect was read and passed around. *(See page 5.)*

"What We Have Learned" was an assignment: Everyone should prepare a list for the next meeting (November). Lists can be combined and eventually shared with the congregation during Advent.

AGENDA ITEM: New Business *(Barbara Moloney)*

"I'm attaching two documents for your review: The first is the recommendations from the Safety Committee that were formed at the last Vestry meeting. The second document is a sample survey. I want to say a big thank-you to the folks who provided input. Additional questions not in my original email were added, so I hope you will look carefully at them and provide feedback. The new questions are designed to give us some measurable information about our congregation's understanding of the function of the Vestry and the level of satisfaction with CHS. I wanted you to see the possibilities for the survey, but I am happy to make adjustments if needed. Thanks for all your help."

[Documents were shared with the Vestry and copied to Vestry Notes folder.]

Next regular Vestry Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, November 19, 2019, beginning at 5:00pm.**
Reports are due by midnight **Saturday, November 16, 2019.**



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Respectfully submitted,
Lorrie Cooper, Clerk

From Tyler Jones:

A Collect for the Vestry of the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit

Source of All Life, Forgiveness, and Inspiration:

We acknowledge how words and behaviors have sometimes hurt others, and have sown pain and anxieties in our church. We pray that we may achieve a deeper appreciation of our differences.

Give us the will to be present to one another through disappointments and disagreements. So guide and direct our hidden lives that we may search our hearts for what we may have done to offend. Supply us with the courage when we need to say, "I'm sorry." Strengthen our resolve to do the hard work of reconciliation. Let all our words and actions help lead us away from shame, demoralization, victimization and hopelessness.

So bend our thoughts and our wills towards your true desires, that we may at last see through our differences, toward a blessed and compassionate understanding.

Amen