

Bethesda Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting
15 May 2024
Saratoga Springs

The meeting was held at the church.

Attendance: Fr. Charles Wallace, Priest in Charge

Sara Manny, Senior Warden

Mark Claverie, Junior Warden

Karen Finkbeiner, Treasurer

David MacVane

Marge Verrigni

Rick Wissler

Timothy Holmes, Clerk

Regrets: David Harper, Marcia MacDonald, Holly Sofarelli

Opening Prayer led by Fr Wallace

Come Holy Spirit, and fill the hearts of your faithful people, and kindle in us, the fire of your love. Amen.

The regular meeting of the Bethesda Episcopal Church Vestry was called to order at 7:00 PM on 15 May 2024, by Fr Wallace.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 17 April 2024 were approved as distributed. (K Finkbeiner, movant; M Verrigni, second)

Treasurer's Financial Report: K Finkbeiner, Treasurer

We have almost no deficit YTD April, as we continued to have strong giving in the month (which includes the deposit of giving that came in around Easter Sunday). Total Expenses are better than budget due to one timing item: we budgeted for an insurance payment that will be paid later in the quarter. We have no overdue invoices.

Operational Performance, Year to Date April 2024

Expense	Budget	Actual	Better/(Worse) than Budget	
Rector Expenses:	42,691	42,679	12	
<i>Wages, benefits, rectory maintenance</i>				
Church Building	19,273	17,113	2,160	Insurance timing
<i>Utilities, Maintenance and Insurance</i>				
Programs not uniquely funded	3,368	3,216	152	
<i>Outreach, Organ, other</i>				
Fees	9,965	9,557	408	
<i>Professional and credit card</i>				
Office	7,850	7,834	16	
<i>Rent, Equipment, Supplies</i>				
Diocese Assessment	18,480	18,480	-	
Total Operational Expense	\$ 101,628	\$ 98,879	\$ 2,749	
Income				
Pledge and Plate:	71,147	92,544	21,397	
<i>Operation Expense over Pledge/plate by:</i>	<i>(30,480)</i>	<i>(6,335)</i>		
Other operational	1,000	1,750		Fuel, other
Total unrestricted Revenue	\$ 72,147	\$ 94,294	\$ 22,147	
Total unrestricted with Div, Int	\$ 78,367	\$ 98,332	\$ 19,964	
Operational Income/(deficit)	\$ (23,260)	\$ (547)	\$ 22,713	

Non-Operational Expenses:

Special Events	635
Choir	\$ 9,370
Altar Guild	320
Christian Ed	1,971
	\$ 12,296

Non-Operational Income:

Special Event Income	5250
Choir	8,912
Flowers/Altar guild	1,320
Christian Educ	-
Feb Env	1,204 <i>Franklin Community Center</i>
Mar Env	520 <i>Lifeworks Community Action</i>
Apr Env	983 <i>Thomas Parke Music Fund</i>

Items in italics do not show in our financial statements once transferred, they are maintained in this list for information only.

Churchwardens' Report:

Junior Warden: M Claverie

- Lot lease extension – Bonacio has requested a 3-month extension to the property lease with the possibility of another 3-month extension. At the conclusion of the lease, the gravel will be

removed, and the topsoil will be restored. A couple of considerations for the lot, once restored: fencing the perimeter and engaging with BOCES for landscape planning.

- Pew removals are scheduled for Sunday following the 10am service. Pews will be loosened and then moved to an area to await their removal from the church.
- Engineering visit Monday by Tom Weber of Engineering Ventures and Shannon Brown from JGWA to look at the removal of the concrete pad on the east side of the church to determine if that would have impact to the east side wall of the church if it were removed (it did not appear to). We also spent time around the outside perimeter of the church to review walls and masonry work. We also visited the basement, including the undercroft area. Several issues were raised during the inspection (which had been noted in the conditions report of 2016) and these items should be addressed next including deterioration of some metal supports towards the front of the church and loose bricks in the wall towards the rear of the church. I am awaiting the report from Engineering Ventures and I will pass that along when I have received it. All in all, it was a very thorough visit (2 ½ hours). Shannon is arranging a meeting with a local contractor (Ganem Contracting) to visit the church and come away with a scope of work and a budget that we can discuss later as a vestry.
- Last month a bent gutter was straightened and downspouts repaired on the east side of the church. This should alleviate the water damage to the wall near the transept (fingers crossed). A downspout is missing on the west side and this will be brought up with Mid-State. It's in a difficult area to reach without a lift.
- The cutover to cooling will occur on May 29th by Bourque Mechanical.
- The plumber is still trying to locate a suitable bathroom sink and will make repairs to the sacristy sink.

Senior Warden: S Manny

Sunday School has gone well and will finish the season next Sunday. There is a steadfast core of families and further interest coming in. The committee will make a plan for summer.

Priest-in-Charge Remarks

Fr Wallace reported that Derek Stannard has worked out a summer music program to begin 16 June. The office has performed smoothly thanks to volunteers. Additional volunteer attendance would be appropriate starting in autumn.

The Diocesan Convention is next week, Fr Wallace and 2 lay Church members will attend.

A deacon will begin soon to assist with Sunday service and community visitation tasks with Fr Wallace.

New Business: none

Next meeting: Sunday 23 June 2024 following the 10 AM service.

Closing Prayer led by Fr Wallace

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

Meeting adjourned 7:59PM

*Respectfully submitted,
Timothy Holmes, Clerk*