

VESTRY BUSINESS MEETING
Jan. 21, 2020 Minutes

Present

Rector: Chad McCabe
Sr. Warden: Deb Hesek
Jr. Warden: Aaron Ting
Treasurer: Henry Terwedow
Clerk: Cathy Terwedow
At-Large: Cindee Morin, Sean Nelson, Sally Kazarian

Absent

At-Large: Lynn DeAngelis,
Ted Flanagan

Consent Agenda

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the December minutes as written. A motion was also made and seconded to approve the December financials and 2019 full-year P&L. The financials, showing a \$9K loss for the year, were approved. All documents are posted in the hallway.

Clerk

The 2019 EOY pledge statements will go out within a week. LEM and LEV license renewals for the year “Advent 2019-Advent 2020” need vestry authorization, as does the parish audit. The audit will be done by Bruce Rockwell on April 29 at 9:30AM. The vestry approved all three items.

Rector

Chad reviewed his first few years of leadership at Nativity, beginning with a year of observation and progressing through phases of administration and ministry. He also reviewed how we’ve made progress drawing in new parishioners and increasing pledges during his tenure and he restated how important outreach and the preschool are to our future growth. Chad restated how important it is for us to see, show, and communicate these results. To that end, Nativity will update our mission statement to “Embraced, Equipped, and Empowered” and publish a formal strategic plan.

Strategic Plan

- We’ll formalize parish communications regarding Nativity’s mission, vision, and goals using a strategic planning template borrowed from First Baptist Church in Tallahassee. The Strategic Plan will be published and distributed as an addendum to the 2020 Annual Report. It will serve as the basis for making regular updates to the parish.
- A Ministry Management Team will be the liaison between the vestry and parish ministries. The team will consist of the leaders listed on the church organizational chart. Each team leader will meet with their individual ministry groups and brainstorm ways in which each ministry can contribute to our five parish goals.
 - Goal 1: To have a strong leadership team
 - Goal 2: To be good stewards of God’s resources
 - Goal 3: To become an engaged and welcoming community
 - Goal 4: To be a center for Christian formation and pastoral care
 - Goal 5: To become Northborough’s “family church” by being more attractive to youth and families
- The Ministry Management Team will file quarterly reports with the vestry showing each ministry’s progress toward parish goals.

Other

- New leaders and vestry members for 2020, to be elected at our annual meeting, are the following:
 - Finance Committee chair: Mark Hausser
 - Treasurer: Janet Wilcox
 - Jr. Warden: Howie Gelles
 - Aaron Ting will take on a new role, providing vision and strategic planning for our physical plant.
- Bishop Fisher will visit Nativity on Feb. 23. There will be only one service, at 10AM.
- Small Group Winter Session begins the week of Feb. 16 and runs through Easter. Hosts are needed. The topic will be the spiritual disciplines which, in turn, will drive a sermon series through the rest of the year.
- Services will remain in the nave until summer, when we'll move to the air-conditioned hall.

Senior Warden

We discussed plans for the Annual Meeting, including child-care needs, how many members constitute a quorum, who will cover which topics, and who will bring which refreshments. We also discussed the need for all LEMs, LEVs, and anyone working in the community to be CORI'd. It was recommended that we create a list of all CORI'd parishioners. Deb will research how long a CORI lasts.

The Vestry Mixer will serve as our February vestry meeting. There will be no executive or business meeting in February. Chad will invite Peter Vanacore to discuss his ideas at the mixer.

Women's Ministry

The women's ministry brunch will be held February 8 in the Parish Hall. The focus will be on serving outside the parish, with a speaker from Helping Hands in Northborough and our own Betsy Hummel describing Nativity's refugee ministry. The need for childcare was discussed at length, as we recognize the importance of providing this service to enable younger women to attend the brunch.

Separately, the cost of this fall's women's retreat will be \$185 which will cover two nights and five meals. Scholarships will be available to defray some of the costs.

Junior Warden

- Aaron fixed the hole in the ceiling of the hall. Racoons are the likely culprit (again!).
- As of Jan. 1, 2020, the solar project is finally complete!!! Although the inverter currently only displays results from half the panels, all the panels are working. We've generated nearly 1000 kWh already this month.
- Nothing new to report on the dumpster situation. **Can we contact the town to cite Republic?** Although we've called Republic several times, they never respond. This is doubly unfortunate as, not only are we stuck with the dumpster (and non-parishioners are putting stuff into it), we have a \$2K credit with Republic that they haven't returned. We'll ask Sabina to contact Harvey to see if they can haul them away. Separately, Chad would like Sabina to see if we can switch our trash day to Friday.
- Diocesan small-church grants have very narrow timelines and tight requirements so we'll need to look into them much more closely before applying.
- Lastly, we can't move the pews back to the nave unless we can add brackets so that they can be bolted to the nave floor.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Terwedow, Clerk

Upcoming Dates:

- Jan. 26: Annual Meeting, 11:30am
- Feb. 2: Leaders' meeting (catch up) , 30 mins, ~11:30AM + Breeze update
- Feb. 8: Women's ministry brunch, 9:00AM, Parish Hall
- Feb. 11: Vestry Mixer, 7PM; no executive or business meeting this month
- Feb. 23: Bishop's visit, ONE SERVICE (with Family Sunday and simple social), 10am
- Feb. 26: Ash Wednesday
- Mar. 3: Executive Meeting
- Mar. 4: Community Meals
- Mar. 17: Vestry Business Meeting