

– MINUTES –

ST. ANNE'S VESTRY MEETING SEPTEMBER 26, 2023

Present: Mtr. Leeann Culbreath, Erin Campbell, Jill Coogle, Joe Falcone, Jeff Gibbs, Sherrie McCullough, Rich McDonald (Sr. Warden), Jenna Claire Riddle, Karen Smith, Pat Walker, Brian Yost, Lorie Felton (Treasurer), and Pam Leonard (Clerk). Also, in attendance were parishioners Brenda Doss, Bucky Ferguson, and Roy Rankin.

Absent: Kimberly Jacobs and Shelly Schmeisser (Jr. Warden)

1. OPENING PRAYER – Rich McDonald opened the meeting with prayer.
2. FORMATION – Mtr. Leeann led a conversation on Consensus Decision Making, a creative and dynamic way of reaching agreement in a group. Instead of simply voting on an item by majority, a consensus group is committed to finding solutions that everyone actively supports or at least can live with. Ephesians 4:1-4 was referenced in the discussion as well.
3. DISCUSSION
 - a. Zoom Attendance Policy – Discussion continued from last month's meeting regarding monthly meeting attendance by Zoom. The group asked that Shelly Schmeisser compose a policy to present to the Vestry addressing approved circumstances for using this attendance method, voting, etc.
 - b. Updates to By-Laws – Some areas of the St. Anne's By-Laws are not in accordance with the Canons of the Episcopal Church, and there is Vestry interest in including a non-discrimination clause. Any proposed changes must be presented to the congregation at least two weeks prior to the Annual Meeting, where they will be discussed and voted upon.
 - i. Mtr. Leeann proposed the following updates to ensure consistency with the Canons.
 - Article III – Add the non-discrimination clause from the Canons:
No one shall be denied rights, status or access to an equal place in the life, worship, governance, or employment of this Church because of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, marital or family status (including

pregnancy or child care plans), sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, disabilities or age, except as otherwise specified by the Canons of The Episcopal Church.

- Article IV – Strike current information and replace with:
The Parish will have members. Members of the Parish are defined in the Canons of The Episcopal Church [Title 1, Canon 17], and whose names are duly enrolled as such in the register of the Parish.
- Article V, Section 4 – Strike current information and replace with:
Each member who is an adult communicant in good standing shall be entitled to one vote. There shall be no vote by proxy. Voting by absentee ballot shall be allowed only if the Parish adopts a written absentee voting procedure delineating the criteria for the use of an absentee ballot and provides reasonable notice of such procedure prior to each election. All matters excluding amendments to these By-Laws shall be decided by a majority vote of those present and entitled to vote.
- Article VIII, Section 3, Number 1 – Strike current information and replace with:
Be a confirmed adult communicant in good standing as defined by the Canons of the Episcopal Church.

- ii. Group discussion followed. (see *Decision*)
- c. Annual Meeting Date – The 2023 Annual Meeting is currently scheduled for November 5, which is also All Saints Day. Due to the number of special activities on that day, the suggestion was made to move the Annual Meeting to November 12. (see *Decision*)
- d. LGBTQIA+ Inclusion – Next steps
 - i. Comments from the Sunday School information gathering sessions were shared and discussed. Some suggestions and concerns:
 - Add inclusion statement from Canons to the St. Anne’s website
 - Interest in a Bible Study series, possibly a Sunday School offering (see *Decision*)
 - Inclusion is necessary, but there are some reservations about the extent of changes
 - What does a “middle way” look like for us?
 - More conversation is needed
 - Name a task force to further discuss potential changes and develop a proposal for the Vestry consideration.
 - ii. Non-Vestry members in attendance were given the opportunity to share thoughts or concerns.

4. INFORMATION

- a. Priest in Charge's Report – Mtr. Leeann is serving as supervisor for our Seminarian Brandon Medley as he has been assigned to St. Anne's for his contextual education ministry. She is also a member of Brandon's mentoring team and is working closely with him on his contextual education ministry. He will be more active in various areas of ministry in the short term.
- b. Senior Warden's Report – Reminder to complete budget requests and Safe Church training, the latter by October 1.
- c. Junior Warden's Report – Re-roofing of campus buildings has been rescheduled and will now begin on October 18.
- d. Liaison Reports
 - i. Adult Formation (*E. Campbell/B. Yost*) – No report.
 - ii. Finance (*L. Felton*) – The Finance Committee voted (via email) unanimously to approve two purchases.
 - o Purchase of six to eight filing cabinets for Administration (Emily Guerry). Total expense including delivery and setup up to \$2,400.
 - o Purchase of a \$200 gift card for nursery worker Naomi Fudge, as well as another gift card in December for an end-of-the-year gift (has been up to \$500 each)
 - iii. Kitchen (*J.C. Riddle*) – Hosts for Sunday morning social time needed.
 - iv. Mission (*J. Coogle*) – No report.
 - v. Outreach (*J. Falcone*) – Actions during the past month:
 - Knots of Love - three gifts sent
 - Food Box – 15 emergency bags distributed; delivery persons for food boxes needed
 - Loaves of Love – new mixer has been purchased; planning a bake sale for December
 - vi. Parish Life and Newcomers (*S. McCullough*) – Thanks to all who assisted in making the Newcomers event a success.
 - vii. Pastoral Care (*K. Smith*) – Numerous contacts have been made during the last month; committee will meet on October 6; Meal Ministry Team list should be updated and new cooks recruited.
 - viii. Stewardship (*J. Coogle*) – October 1 will begin stewardship season; a parishioner will speak on the importance of giving at each Sunday service until Consecration Sunday; a guest clergy member will give the sermon on Consecration Sunday and Tom and Jill Coogle will provide a luncheon.

- ix. Transition (J. Gibbs) – No report.
- x. Youth Formation and Mission (*K. Jacobs*) – No report.
- xi. Worship (*P. Walker*) – No report.

e. Upcoming Dates

October 29	Consecration Sunday
October 31	All Hallows' Eve Trunk or Treat
November 5	All Saints Sunday
November 12	Annual Meeting

5. FINANCIAL REPORTS – Treasurer Lorie Felton shared financial reports for the month ending August 31, 2023 (see attachment). She also presented the 2024 proposed budget from the Finance Committee.

6. DECISION

- a. Motion to submit proposed St. Anne's By-Laws changes (see *Discussion, Letter B*) to the congregation two weeks prior to the Annual Meeting, where the updates will be presented for discussion and a vote. (motion by Jeff Gibbs/second by Brian Yost). The motion was approved, pending review by the Diocesan Chancellor.
- b. Motion to move the Annual Meeting from Sunday, November 5 to Sunday, November 12, 2023. (motion by Jenna Claire Riddle/second by Karen Smith). The motion was approved.
- c. Motion to offer a fall Sunday School series on LGBTQ+ inclusion from a scriptural standpoint (motion by Erin Campbell/second by Sherry McCullough). The motion was approved.
- d. Motion to approve Rich McDonald, Bettie Sue McDonald, Lorie Felton, and Karen Smith (alternate) to represent St. Anne's as delegates to the upcoming Diocesan Convention (motion by Erin Campbell/second by Brian Yost). The motion was approved.

7. MINUTES – The minutes for the August 22, 2023, meeting were approved as circulated (motion by Jill Coogle/second by Karen Smith).

8. CLOSING PRAYER – Pam Leonard closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Leonard

St. Annes Operating Budget Summary

Aug-23

	Aug-23	Aug-22
Monthly Income All-Sources	\$ 29,532.37	\$ 39,865.56
Expenses	\$ 32,858.36	\$ 23,007.45
Net Operating Income	\$ (3,325.99)	\$ 16,858.11

YTD August 2023

	Aug-23	Aug-22
Total Income	\$ 312,785.40	\$ 347,961.74
Total Expenses	\$ 247,068.88	\$ 275,487.76
Net Operating Income	\$ 65,716.52	\$ 72,473.98

Note: Pledge Income	August	Year To Date	Budget YTD
Aug-23	\$ 28,953.01	\$ 309,194.27	\$ 322,520.00
Aug-22	\$ 39,319.56	\$ 332,686.39	
Difference	\$ (10,366.55)	\$ (23,492.12)	

Note: Budget	Expense YTD	Budget YTD	Difference
Aug-23	\$ 247,068.88	\$ 322,520.00	\$ 75,451.12
Aug-22	\$ 275,487.76	\$ 309,290.00	\$ 33,802.24

AMERIS BANK-Dedicated Accounts

Current Month	Past Month	Accounts
\$ 1,383.02	\$ 1,163.13	Diocesan Bond Interest
\$ 224,461.90	\$ 225,723.08	Money Market Holding
\$ (53.94)	\$ 1,471.16	Money Market Checking
\$ 225,790.98	\$ 228,357.37	TOTAL CASH In AMERIS - Dedicated Accounts

OTHER Savings/Investments

Current Month	Past Month	Accounts
\$ 118,941.24	123,457.73	Episcopal Church Foundation-Endowment
\$ 118,941.24	\$ 123,457.73	TOTAL Other Savings/Investments
\$ 344,732.22	\$ 351,815.10	TOTAL Dedicated Cash/Savings/Investments

SOUTH GEORGIA BANK - Operating Accounts

Account Balances	Current Month	Past Month
Checking: Church Operating	\$ 257,433.34	\$ 259,494.79
Operating Reserve	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
Total Cash in South Georgia Bank	\$ 357,433.34	\$ 359,494.79

Total Cash in SGBC & Ameris Banks	\$ 702,165.56	\$ 711,309.89
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Ministry Center Financing			
Building Fund			
	Income	Expenses	Balance
Aug-23	\$ 370.70	\$ 1,857.51	\$33,182.92
Mortgage Balance	\$		220,677.58

NOTABLE Dedicated Accounts			
Account	Current Month	Past Month	
Maintenance Reserve	\$ 111,532.84	\$ 111,532.84	
Unrestricted Memorials	\$ 3,315.09	\$ 3,165.09	
Restricted Memorials	\$ 1,884.29	\$ 1,884.29	
Adult Formation	\$ 10,030.49	\$ 10,030.49	
Mission Fund	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	
Needlepoint	\$ 9,043.28	\$ 9,043.28	
Outreach	\$ 5,660.92	\$ 6,721.03	
Kitchen Fund	\$ 4,775.18	\$ 4,775.18	
Parish Life	\$ 4,171.18	\$ 4,171.18	
Pastoral Care	\$ 346.25	\$ 346.25	
Worship	\$ 7,029.81	\$ 7,195.41	
Youth Formation	\$ 10,364.21	\$ 10,149.21	
Rector's Discretionary Fund	\$ 423.93	\$ 1,198.93	
Rector Search Fund	\$ 20,558.96	\$ 20,558.96	
Art (NEW) (Fund for Arts)	\$ 75.00	\$ -	

August '23 Building Fund			
Ministry Center Financing			
Building Fund			
	Income	Expenses	Balance
Aug-22	\$ 478.70	\$ 1,857.51	\$ 43,437.22
Sep-22	\$ 5,893.75	\$ 1,857.51	\$ 47,473.46
Oct-22	\$ 611.60	\$ 1,857.51	\$ 46,227.55
Nov-22	\$ 11,359.00	\$ 1,857.51	\$ 55,729.04
Dec-22	\$ 2,431.00	\$ 1,857.51	\$ 56,302.53
Jan-23	\$ 1,440.00	\$ 14,832.04	\$ 42,910.49
Feb-23	\$ 299.70	\$ 1,857.51	\$ 41,352.68
Mar-23	\$ 1,154.30	\$ 1,857.51	\$ 40,649.47
Apr-23	\$ 345.70	\$ 1,857.51	\$ 39,137.66
May-23	\$ 440.30	\$ 1,857.51	\$ 37,720.45
Jun-23	\$ 200.00	\$ 1,857.51	\$ 36,062.94
Jul-23	\$ 464.00	\$ 1,857.51	\$ 34,669.43
Aug-23	\$ 370.70	\$ 1,857.51	\$ 33,182.62