Emmanuel Church

Dublin, NH 03444

(Draft) Minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting

Sunday, August 28, 2022

The 134th Annual Meeting of Emmanuel Church was held in the church sanctuary following the 9:00am worship service on Sunday, August 28, 2022. The meeting began at 10:29am with a Welcome and Call to Order by Senior Warden Ellen Avery.

Secretary Ann Conway confirmed that a quorum was present.

In Attendance:

Ellen Avery (Senior Warden), Ann Conway (Secretary), Kathy Miner (Treasurer) Reverend John H. Branson (August Priest in Residence), and the following Managing Committee members: Ted and Wendy Pearre (Buildings & Grounds), Bob Englund (Music), Bill Raymond (Outreach & Communication), Martha Raymond (Rectory), and Jack Lewis (for absent Nominating Committee Chairman KC King). Altar Guild Chairman Cynthia Chace, Finance Committee Chairman Bob Hamshaw, and July Priest in Residence Very Reverend Gideon Pollach were unable to attend.

Members of the congregation present included:

Sally Larsen, Bruce Larsen, Deb Roberts, Dita Englund, Susie Catlin, Phil Miner, Joan Griffin, Anne-Marie Irwin, David Irwin, Sally Collier, Tyler Madden, Amy Manley, and Yancey Brame.

Rev. John Branson offered the opening prayer.

It was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved to accept the (Draft) Minutes of the Emmanuel Church 2021 Annual Meeting held on Sunday, August 29, 2021 as previously distributed.

Senior Warden Ellen Avery presented her Warden’s Reflections, remembering the unique challenges the Covid 19 pandemic presented to Emmanuel Church in 2020, and to all of us in our lives going forward. Having been inspired by the words of The Most Reverend Michael B. Curry, presiding bishop and primate of the Episcopal Church, Ellen shared what he had written in the early days of the pandemic, finding his wisdom still very relevant today. (See Attached: “What Does Love Do? Living the Way of Love during Pandemic”) Ellen closed her remarks by offering thanks for the opportunity to have served as Emmanuel’s Senior Warden.

August Priest in Residence Rev. John Branson read absent July Priest in Residence Very Rev. Gideon Pollach’s Address to the Congregation Present, followed by John reading his own Annual Report. (Texts of these messages are attached, and will appear online also in the September edition of the E-Pistle newsletter.)

Treasurer Kathy Miner presented a report on Emmanuel’s current financial status.

(2022 Proposed Budget is attached).

Overall the news is positive with 96% of expected contributions in, and expenses a little less than expected. (Most contributions are received before Labor Day with very few gifts received after summer is over.) Investment income has been variable due to fluctuating markets. The Managing Committee is in the process of approving a final Budget for 2023 when certain expenses are better known, such as the hiring of Rev Cathy George as consultant, and expenses related to the Search for a new August Priest in Residence.

Full Committee reports are not attached, but available from the Secretary Ann Conway on request. Summary Reports:

a) Altar Guild – Ann Conway for Cynthia Chace

Emmanuel Church will be closed up for the season on Friday September 9th at 9:00am. All welcome to come help put things away.

b) Music – Bob Englund

Thanks to Walden School and guest musicians for their very special music, which adds so much to our worship services. Bob provided a brief history of our 152 year old organ, which is in excellent shape.

c) 2023 Charitable Outreach from Emmanuel Church – Bill Raymond

The list of local charities and non-profits, and institutions to whom Emmanuel offers support is not too different from in previous years. Per John Branson’s suggestion, the Managing Committee voted to increase the sum to be given as Voluntary Chapel NH Diocese Support from $600 to $1000.

It was moved by Bill Raymond, seconded by Bruce Larsen, and unanimously approved

to support funding as presented. (see list attached).

d) Rectory – Martha Raymond

Fortunately, there are no major issues looming at the Rectory, just some smaller items to be addressed.

e) Service Ministry – no chair this year

Ellen reported that volunteers for the various ministries relating to Sunday services

have made use of the Uber Board to sign up, and also responded to the “vacancies” as reported in the weekly E-Pistle newsletter.

f) Buildings and Grounds – Ted Pearre

Summer months have focused on the usual maintenance tasks of periodic mowing, watering, and weeding. The War Memorial windows are being monitored for repairs that may be needed in the future (not critical now).

From Ted’s written report: The main focus of B&G in recent months has been the upcoming roof replacement project. After thorough research and due diligence, Emmanuel selected Davis Construction of Peterborough to complete the roof and bell tower restoration. In addition they will replace the failing exterior screens currently protecting the stained glass windows. Work is slated to begin in the spring of 2023 and is to be completed prior to the opening of Emmanuel for the 2023 season. (The Managing Committee has approved a budget of $149,500 for this project with funding TBD.)

A major accomplishment has been the completion of the LCHIP Grant application, a process led by Ellen Avery, Ted Pearre, Bill Raymond and others.

Emmanuel Church is part of the Dublin Village Historic District, making us eligible for this important grant that will significantly help us in paying for the project. We should hear in November if we will be awarded the grant. Ted and Bill will be meeting with the LCHIP Team on September 7th at Emmanuel.

Ellen suggested that next summer we invite Steve Mallory, the historic preservationist who wrote the Historic Building Conditions Assessment report, (a document required for the LCHIP Grant application), to make a presentation for the community.

The following 2022 Nominating Committee report was read by Jack Lewis, a Nominating Committee member, reporting for KC King, the Nominating Committee Chair and former Senior Warden, and Phil Miner, who also served on the Nominating Committee:

The Nominating Committee proposes the following slate of officers for the coming year at Emmanuel Church, Dublin NH. The officers are to serve for one year, for the 2023 Season, term commencing after the conclusion of Annual Meeting of the Congregation scheduled for August 28, 2022, through the 2023 annual meeting.

Senior Warden – William Raymond

Junior Warden – J. Yancey “Yank” Brame

Treasurer – Kathryn Miner

Secretary – Ann Conway

The slate was elected unanimously.

New Business:

1) Ellen Avery suggested to the new leadership that it might be time to revisit the driveway / parking lot drainage and repaving issues explored several (pre-Covid) years ago.

2) Phil Miner brought up an issue that needs attention, which is codifying the agreements with Dublin School regarding sewer, water, electricity easements and services. Services are being provided but there is nothing in writing in the deeds to the properties. There will be some legal fees associated with this process, unknown at this point.

Amy Manley made a motion that the incoming Managing Committee of Emmanuel Church authorize starting the process of codifying these easements. Joan Griffin seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously. Phil Miner volunteered to be a part of this process.

3) Anne-Marie Irwin asked about what the process will be for choosing a new August Priest in Residence for next summer. Newly elected Senior Warden Bill Raymond spoke to her questions. The first thing that will happen is that Rev. Cathy George will be hired as consultant to the Managing Committee and chaplain to the Search Committee when it is appointed by the Senior Warden per Emmanuel’s Bylaws (Article 3 Officers/ Senior Warden duties / (b) Chairing and appointing a search committee for summer Priests and Organist as needed.) Anne-Marie volunteered to be on the Search Committee.

For those who don’t know Rev. Cathy George (a past summer Priest in Residence at Emmanuel for 8 years), Bill provided a brief resume.

John Branson commented on the valuable resources available through the Diocese of NH, including Bishop Rob himself. There are others with whom we may consult, such as Rev. George Andrews.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:33am.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann W. Conway

Secretary

Emmanuel Church 2023

Opening Sunday – June 25th

Closing Sunday – September 3rd