

# Special Vestry Meeting

## Sunday, July 29, 2016

**Attendance:**

Rev. Ben Robertson	Amy Barker	Amanda Camp
Molly Meeks, Sr Warden	Debbie Lominick	Steve Middleton
Jim Russell	Reggie Sims	Bob Williams
Whit Rayner, via phone		

**Open prayer by Rev Ben Robertson**

**Amy Barker:**

Amy presented the Vestry with options and opinions from members of the parish and vestry on keeping current contract with Barlow, Eddy and Jenkins vs terminating contract and starting the process of bidding out the project.

**Summary:**

BEJ are obligated to present a redraw of a design within The Chapel of the Cross’s budget. BEJ has the option to withdraw from the contract. Suggested that if we choose to stay with BEJ, dealing directly with Brian since Chuck is a parishioner.

If we choose to go in the direction of a new architect, that firm will be liable for the current design by BEJ. The new firm may choose to change design if they feel it is in their best interest to assume liability under their name.

**Rev. Ben Robertson:**

Ben had each vestry member make a list of effect of keeping or terminating contract with BEJ

**Keeping Contract**

**Terminating Contract**

Need to take away the personal side of BEJ and be professional	Taking the personal side away, with a parishioner being partner of BEJ
Feelings that the client’s opinions are not as important of BEJ	Increase trust and respect with a new firm that we are the client and our opinion matters

Theological baggage that do not apply to today's church needs	Possibility of different design
Vestry having to defend their decision of keeping BEJ	Possibly new Vestry/Building committee would be elected to choose new firm

Negativity of Parishioners re BEJ	Possibility of parish viewing hiring BEJ as a mistake by the Vestry
Possibility of decrease of pledges	Possibility of decrease of pledges
Save time	More time
BEJ know the plans and design	Fresh prospective/slate
Save money	Possibility of increase in money
BEJ are obligated to redesign plans to fit our budget	Same problems could occur with a new firm
BEJ are a trusted and respected firm	May have positive feedback from parishioners that did not agree with hiring of BEJ
BEJ maintains liability of the plans	Will new firm take on liability of plans or draw new ones
Vestry allowed to talk to contractors and have control to say what we want	Better relationship with low bidder of contractors

Rebecca Haas suggested by correspondence to Amy Barker that her opinion is to stay with BEJ and hire a new contractor. She is also concerned with the professional and personal conflict of BEJ.

Reggie Sims motioned to keep Barlow Eddy and Jenkins as the architectural firm, ask for their recommendation of a building contractor and also their opinion of the contractor that the building committee chooses.

Vestry agrees that the following will be applied if BEJ is voted to continue with contract:

- BEJ will agree that The Chapel of the Cross will make the decision of who the contractor will be.
- The Chapel will lead conversations with contractors, not BEJ
- There will be a professional client/firm relationship
- Clear expectation of the new chapter moving forward with a clean slate
- Feedback requested by parishioners will not be given by BEJ, but directed to Amy Barker, building committee or vestry
- Communication to be sent out to the Parish

Jim Russell seconded the motion by Reggie Sims.

All in favor to continue with Barlow Eddy and Jenkins to continue as architectural firm, with Amy and Ben abstaining from the vote.

All motion to adjourn and agreed by all.