

Bethesda Episcopal Church  
Saratoga Springs NY

Minutes: Vestry Meeting  
Wednesday, December 14, 2016

Vestry

Mark Claverie

Darren Miller

Mary Withington

Denise Limoli

Gordon Boyd

Catherine Berheide (excused)

Mark Griffin

Jane Agee

Geneva Henderson

Sara Manny (excused)

Clergy

Dean Marshall J. Vang, Interim Rector

Treasurer

Anne Van Acker

Call to order: Dean Vang called to order the regular meeting of the Bethesda Episcopal Church Vestry at 7:00 PM on December 14, 2016 at the Parish House on Washington Street.

Devotions: Dean Vang began the meeting with devotions.

Previous meeting minutes: Boyd moved to accept minutes from the previous meeting, seconded by Miller, unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Pledge and plate is still doing better than last year (up by about \$12,000) and is ahead of budget. Fuel donations are also up. Total income is down about \$23,000 and behind budget (fewer weddings, less income from the building fund party). Expenses are overall lower than last year, but net ordinary income shows a deficit of about \$73,000. However, the strong market helps, resulting in a total deficit of about \$33,000. Total expenses are over budget because of this year's higher diocesan assessment and a property tax payment from earlier in the year.

2017 Budget: Balanced the budget! Weideman money that had built up in the checking account can be used to supplement donations towards Landon's tuition if these prove to be insufficient. Buying a rectory within the next six months would halve the rector's living expenses, which goes a long way towards balancing the budget.

Interim Rector's Report: Vang expressed thanks to Van Acker for her services as treasurer. He has appointed a committee comprised of Claverie, both wardens, and Barbara Cassier to investigate purchasing a new rectory. We probably won't be able to stay in the parish house after May 2017 and are considering a tenancy in the Baptist church for office space.

Building Fund/Capital Campaign: Boyd summarized reports on the improvements planned for the income from the building fund party. We have made the down-payment for the windows,

but the work will probably have to wait for better weather. The hearing loop estimate came in around \$11,000 and will cover about 80% of the church. Boyd has requested a map of the coverage area.

Stewardship: We have received 56 pledges totaling \$133,406, which is under last year (67 pledges \$143,708).

Nominating Committee: There's an 8 AM volunteer to fill one of the open vestry positions, and the committee has created a list of 10 names, ranked, for the other opening. Vestry needs to identify a treasurer before contacting anyone because three of the people on the list are also proposed for treasurer. Once we have a treasurer, Berheide will start calling potential vestry members.

Home of the Good Shepherd: Trial is over, transcripts are being produced and all attorneys will do a post-trial brief. Probably won't have a decision until next year. Finalizing financing for renovation of 390 Church into a memory care unit. New building is filling up, particularly the assisted living portions.

Interim Rector's Expenses: Henderson moved to approve Dean Vang's expenses for the month, Griffin seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Closing: Limoli moved to adjourn the meeting. Withington seconded the motion which passed unanimously.