

Bethesda Episcopal Church
Saratoga Springs NY

Minutes: Vestry Meeting
Tuesday, March 29, 2017

Vestry
Mark Claverie (excused)
Darren Miller
Denise Limoli
Gordon Boyd
Catherine Berheide
Mark Griffin
Jane Agee
Field Horne (absent)
Sara Manny (via speakerphone)
Mayume Kato
Pam Houde

Clergy
Dean Marshall J. Vang, Interim Rector

Clerk
Geneva Henderson

Treasurer
John Van der Veer (excused)

Call to order: Dean Vang called to order the regular meeting of the Bethesda Episcopal Church Vestry at 7:00 PM on March 29, 2017 at the church on Washington Street.

Devotions: As the meeting followed a mass, there was no need for devotions.

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

Interim Rectors Report: Vang expressed thanks to Mark Claverie for organizing the move from 41 Washington to various locations, including 43 Washington, the church basement and a temperature controlled storage unit. He also acknowledged Barbara as indispensable. Landon is back at Yale and will be here for Holy Week. Vang and Claverie will meet with electrician at the new rectory tomorrow and will work to keep costs low. We will be wrapping up things at 41 Washington soon. Will try to get the landlords to cover our move, and maybe the rent since our lease went through May 31 and their construction has made the parish house uninhabitable. We no longer have access to the parish house parking lot, and with other services in the area, parking may be difficult; we need to make sure that doesn't keep people from attending services. Will be immediately relocating coffee hour and church school to the church building.

Treasurer's Report: Miller conveyed the Treasurer's Report. Will send out copies of the report later. Bethesda is behind in income (budget vs.) actual and over in expenses for the first quarter, but this is fairly normal since winter is our slowest period. Income is behind by about \$11,000. Seminarian fund raised about \$6000. All expenses are at or below budget except repairs and office supplies (boiler repair was a big repair expense). We are about \$3800 over budget in expenses. Income is about \$19,000 behind this time last year. (About \$16,000 behind in total

revenue, which would include seminarian fund.) Will examine figures to see if we can figure out where the difference is coming in between last year and this.

New Lease: Office space at 43 Washington St. will cost \$300 a month plus a share of utility expenses in the First Baptist Church. This is not a lot of money but it's money we hadn't budgeted for. May need to use the Genworth fund to make up this expense. We're discussing sharing our copier with the baptists and setting them up with their own passcode.

Church School: Houde cleaned out two of the rooms upstairs and has about 10 boxes, a small table, and a bunch of wooden chairs to be moved to the church. She will make a Sunday school area in the back of the church.

Choir: Can't rehearse in the old choir room anymore because of the asbestos abatement and the other construction, so choir will have to relocate rehearsals to the church.

Building Report: Boyd has been going through value engineering with Bonacio and architects. Will need to have a conversation with the architect to discuss fees due. Current cost per square foot is over what we expected and unaffordable. Boyd will work with the architects to see where we can amend the plans in order to cut costs. Meanwhile we are still looking at other financing options, and pursuing outside donors.

New Business: Dean Vang asked that the parochial financial report be presented at the next vestry meeting for final approval. This will give us an idea of next year's diocesan assessment.

Expenses: Miller moved to approve Dean Vang's expenses for the month, Berheide seconded the motion and all were in favor

Closing: Henderson moved to adjourn the meeting. Berheide seconded the motion which passed unanimously.