

Vestry 1-18-26

Attendance:

Donna Cowden
Martha Murphy
Thomas Albritton
Corinne Groves
Kit Reddeck
Nancy Young
Julie Dubuisson
Matt Mayers
Stan Meiburg

Guests:

Pat Noel
Ron Noel

Opening Prayer

Skipping of highs and lows

Minutes from last meeting

- Motion with the most updated feedback regarding the treasurer's report?
- Martha M: Motion to approve
- Kit R: Second
- Minutes Approved

Parishioner check-in

Committee Reports

- The shed was broken into and the grill was stolen
 - o Waiting for the police report before filing a claim with the insurance company
 - o Discussion ensued regarding current situation with cameras on the premises

Policies and Procedures for Building Use Policy and Liability Form

- Move to approve, pending necessary amendments?
 - o Thomas A.: We've already approved this pending our attorney looking at it, etc.

Communications Committee

- Donna C.: We talked about a communications committee, but we never approved it. We need a motion, and then a charter to be developed etc.
- Julie D.: I move that we establish a communications committee.

- Corinne G.: I second
- Brief discussion regarding purpose of this committee
- Approved
- Brief discussion regarding committee reports being presented at the annual meeting
- Brief discussion regarding keeping the office open. It is permissible, as long as the safe is locked

Treasurer's Report

- Only about \$16,000 in pledge received in December, when \$28,000 was projected.
- **Update, February 16th: It turned out that some pledge payments received in December were misclassified. The result is that an additional \$15,751.68 was received in December 2025 pledge payments. This reduced our deficit for 2025 to \$53,176.69 (expenses over budget)**
 - o Expenses exceeded budget, too
 - Parish administrator, choir interns, etc.
- Proposal for how to make up for that deficit: transfer from reserved funds
 - o We can use \$19,000 from the David Pegg fund, leaving about \$10,000 for next year. This covers the overage in choir interns)
 - When we planned the budget last year, \$6,000 of regular funding and \$6,000 from the David Pegg Fund. We went way past that.
 - o Going forward, we will use a more precise system to account for reserves and checks, i.e., a separate Money Market account for reserved funds
 - o We have an estimated \$37,000 in the General Reserve account. This is a separate from the Reserve Fund we hold in the Common Trust, which is \$77,000. The General Reserve can be used to help offset the 2025 deficit.
 - Stan M.: I would prefer to have a motion from the vestry to adjust the accounts to reflect the current state of the restricted funds.
 - Donna C.: I move
 - Kit R.: I second
 - Approved
- Looking at 2026
 - o Some current pledges were increased, and there are 8 new pledges
 - o We also have many past donors who have since passed
 - Current balance of pledges reflects these two elements
 - o Average annual pledge this year is almost identical to last year
 - o We have a onetime cost associated with transitions in parish
 - Remaining transition for parish administrator, as well as the cost of the rector search
 - o Our Budget would have been against the non-restricted revenue
 - Where we can get a little more money
 - David Pegg Fund

- Druga Fund has gone up to \$12,000
 - Possibility of the Buildings and Grounds budget coming primarily from this fund
- Choir intern budget closer to what was spent last year: \$23,500 (\$15,000 from David Pegg and around \$8,000 from the regular budget)
 - Brief discussion regarding number of paid interns in proportion to congregants who are willing to sing
- Reducing Expenses
 - Cost of stripping floors and HVAC can be removed (Druga or Moore Fund can cover these)
 - Buildings and Grounds Committee will be primarily operating out of the Druga or Moore fund.
 - Donna C.: Moore fund was originally intended for large budget items.
- Discussion regarding possibility of decreasing \$5500 in operating budget for choir interns
- Technology
 - Stan will work with Carolyn and Jason Wilkinson to look at these costs
- Archives and Records
 - A year-long position
 - Discussion ensued regarding the contract, as well as the cost, of prolonging that position, if needed [**Update: the Archives/Records position will wrap up by the end of March**]
- Bread and Blessings
 - \$3500—some reductions possible; dedicated donation
- Rector Search
 - Vestry has some discretion
 - Diocese says \$20,000. What if we budget \$15,000?
- Social Ministries, Unrestricted
 - Discussion regarding how necessary it is to fund these
- Net Result: \$40,000 short.
 - Further discussion ensued regarding above figures and the possibility of going into the Common Trust Reserve
 - As of Dec. 31: A little over \$92,000 in checking account (includes restricted funds).
 - Moore Fund has \$17,000 in checking

- End of year expenses for 2025: a little over \$422,000 against a lower budget.
 - It was an odd year because of the transition with the Parish Administrator position
- Our current admin costs more, too.
 - Last year we budgeted a surplus of \$10,000. The deficit could have been worse.
 - Further discussion ensued regarding Parish Administrator transition

Point of info:

- Jill Crainshaw provided prayers for us
 - Three forms of a prayer for use during this time of transition. We could offer the short one just before the mission statement, if we want to. It's just shared language during this time of transition.

Parish Meeting and Vestry Retreat

- Ballot of people running for the vestry will be presented (four running for three slots)
- Three delegate candidates running for one slot
- Search Update
 - Hire interim, search committee, parish profile, etc.
- Policies and procedures and strategic planning
 - Strategic planning: We've accepted the committee's work, and we have a plan to review over the weeks and months ahead and decide how best to implement it.
 - We have voted unanimously to accept the products of these two committees as living documents that we will be reviewing.

Onboarding Guide and Retreat Agenda

- The vestry arrives at 4pm, dinner at 6:30, and Pat wants to meet for a bonding thing.
- Everything's been paid for, with the exception of Pat's fee.

Executive Session

Next Meeting is during the vestry retreat – Feb. 20th – 22nd

Corinne G: I move to have Christopher Norris preach on the 22nd

Donna C: Second

Approved