

St. John's Episcopal Church, Sharon, PA
Vestry Minutes
December 12, 2016

Present: Al Seladi, Barb Lipinski, Keith Rowlands, Tracy Schliep, Adam Trambley, Gary Funderlich, Curt Myers, Madge Tamber

Absent:

Vestry met in the All Saint's Chapel with Evening Prayer at 7:00 pm

Vestry reconvened in the upstairs dining room at 7:29 pm.

A motion was made by Funderlich to approve the November 12, 2016 vestry minutes. Second by Myers. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's report was reviewed and discussed. Pledge income is under budget but special offering and endowment incomes are both higher than budgeted. End of year pledge income reminders have been sent out. It was also noted that income this year is lower than last year because we do not receive Youth Minister support funds any longer, The total income is still below budget because all of the special fund transfers have not been made. Once the final transfers are made income will be on budget. Expenses remain in good shape with no great changes noted since last month. Plant expenses continue to be well below budget. Staff benefits are unchanged. There was discussion concerning how to better the present the Rector's health/life insurance expense in the budget to reflect when this expense is actually paid. Overall, expenses are below budget. There continues to be a problem getting the Secretary's health expense to show on the Treasurer's report.

Fr. Adam presented the 2017 budget. This includes 1% pay increase for all employees. Music supplies was reduced because a lot of new music was purchased in 2016 and will be reused and a license was bought to allow the Choir director to download music. Organ and piano maintenance is \$2200. The organ cost \$850 to tune twice a year and the pianos are \$100 each, twice a year. Pledges received to date appear positive with many people making small increases in their pledges. Motion to approve the budget made by Funderlich, second by Myers. Motion carried unanimously.

The Rector's Housing Allowance Resolution was explained and read as follows:
Housing Allowance Resolution 2017

Whereas, Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code permits a minister of the gospel to exclude from gross income (in computing federal income taxes) a church-designated allowance paid to him as part of his compensation to the extent used by him for actual expenses in owning or renting a home; and

Whereas, the Reverend Adam T. Trambley is compensated by St. John's Church exclusively for the services as a minister of the gospel;
and

Whereas St. John's Church does not provide Fr. Trambley with a rectory, therefore, it is hereby

Resolved, that the compensation paid to Fr. Trambley from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 shall be \$80,210.00 of which \$23,004 is hereby designated to be a housing allowance; and be it further

Resolved, that in all future years, \$23,004.00 of Father Trambley's compensation shall be designated as a housing allowance unless otherwise provided.

Motion to approve Tamber, second, Funderlich. Motion carried unanimously.

The sexton will be on medical leave beginning December 15 for four to six weeks. Fr. Adam asked approval to hire Mike Gutowski on a temporary basis. Motion to hire Michael Gutowski as an interim sexton made by Funderlich, second by Meyers. Motion carried unanimously.

There was discussion on pay for the Sexton while he is on medical leave. Based on past practice a motion was made to pay him ½ of his average work hours for a maximum of six weeks. Motion by Funderlich, second, Schliep. Motion carried unanimously.

Potential vestry candidates were approached by current members. There is one candidate who has agreed to run. Several more candidates were discussed and vestry will reach out to them.

Annual meeting date was set for January 29, 2017 between the 8 & 10 am services.

As part of the Reaching New People campaign, Fr. Adam is going to LTI on Monday and Penn State on Thursday around lunch time. This is allowing him to meet faculty and hopefully connect with some of the students. He was also asked to be on the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce. Wednesday Advent services with dinner is going well. The Christmas family service will be a little different this year. The choir director is working on songs with the Sunday School, Cleo Meyers is working with children and the flags. There may be a Santa Claus if a suit can be found. The warranties for Allen Hall still need to be looked at to help with repairs. The NCD team held an open meeting to discuss loving relationships, conflict resolution and lack of process we have a church. It was also noted that we, as a church, do not affirm our volunteers publicly as we did in the past and it may be time to begin that again. Fr. Adam will be on a short retreat from January 3- January 5.

Motion to adjourn at 8:51 made by Tamber, second by Seladi. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Lipinski, Clerk