

**St. Philip's Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting
September 19, 2017
Minutes**

Present: Ruth Smith, *Sr. Warden*, Bill Bittenbender, *Jr. Warden*, , Mike Chase, Maryann Darzano, Barbara Edwards, Geoff Gersen, Fallon Pearce, Dana Richardson, Jennifer Williams, Marty Younts, Canon Jim Hanisian, *Priest-in-Charge*; Fr. TJ Tetzlaff, *Assistant Priest*

Absent: Maitland Barnes, Bill Carney, Bob Fuchs, *Treasurer*, Ray DiGuiseppe, *Chancellor*

Ex Officio: Janet Fox, *Clerk*

Opening Prayer. Canon Jim opened the meeting with a prayer at 5:30 p.m.

Opening Devotion. Bill Bittenbender

Approval of August 15 Meeting Minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report.

Treasurer's Report to Vestry
August 15, 2017

Operating Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Variance	2016 YTD Actual	YTD Actual vs. 2016	Annual Budget
Revenues						
Pledges	217,040	227,921	-10,881	198,613	18,427	400,000
Flower Revenue	2,840	2,625	215	2,575	265	4,875
Identified Offerings	40,731	39,920	811	52,706	-11,975	70,060
Loose Plate	7,457	6,838	620	6,769	688	12,000
Parish Hall Rental	615	630	-15	550	65	1,080
Miscellaneous Receipts	7,524	6,268	1,257	8,670	-1,145	11,000
Unbudgeted Revenue	3,827	0	3,827	0	3,827	0
Total Revenues	280,035	284,202	-4,167	269,883	10,152	499,015
Expenses						
Parish Staff	160,176	162,282	2,106	137,057	23,119	283,061
Christian Education and Youth	631	2,095	1,464	572	59	6,270
Music	2,063	2,765	702	1,433	630	3,915
Outreach	432	6,100	5,668	563	-131	6,775

Property	46,177	49,265	3,088	53,337	-7,160	85,421
Administration	66,744	58,826	-7,919	67,346	-602	101,358
Worship	7,640	6,395	-1,245	6,998	642	12,210
Unbudgeted Expense	12,474	0	-12,474	0	12,474	0
Total Expenses	296,337	287,728	-8,610	267,306	29,031	499,011
Net Total	-16,303	-3,526	-12,777	2,577	-18,879	4

Accounts	12/31/2016 Balance	End of Month Balance
Checking Account	92,141	51,405
Rector's Discretionary Account	13,344	15,815
Investment Accounts	519,984	566,707
Women's Group Investments	11,536	18,372
Total	637,005	652,299

Loans	12/31/2016 Balance	End of Month Balance
Mortgage Payable	226,157	217,435

YTD Total Revenues is \$4,167 under budget. Pledge revenue is \$10,881 under budget.
YTD Total Expenses is \$8,609 over budget.
YTD Net Total (revenues minus expenses) is \$12,776 negative.

\$9,616 was spent on unbudgeted church wish list items. This year, \$3,827 was donated for these purposes in addition to the \$4,316 collected in 2016. \$1,473 more was spent than was collected. Memorial Funds (undesignated) temporary restricted funds were used to cover the excess.

\$4,081 more was required to complete payments to Rev. Finnerud than was available in the Assistant Priest temporary restricted fund. The excess amount is included in Unbudgeted Expense in the operating budget.

The mortgage refinance was finalized on August 2. The outstanding balance shown is from the old mortgage.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Fuchs
Treasurer

Dana noted that that actual expenses over revenues was \$4,000 not \$7,000 and that the change would be incorporated in next month's Treasurer's Report.

The Treasurer's Report was unanimously accepted.

Strategy Reports. Ruth said she had received reports from two of the Vestry strategy teams. – Stewardship and Staffing. Next month the strategy team captains will be expected to provide updates on the progress of their plans, showing each plan as at the Green, Yellow or Red stage, or as completed.

Canon Jim stated that four of the five new Ministry Boards had met, and that he would be meeting once with each of them in his role as coach. The Parish Life Ministry Board has not yet met.

Questions Remaining from Previous Saturday Work Day.

Q. Now that most decisions will be made by ministry boards, how will Vestry know what is going on?

A. The same way the rest of the congregation will know, by reading the e-news. Ministry boards will come to Vestry when they need a Vestry vote on a particular matter.

Q. What is happening with the 250th anniversary of St. Philip's?

A. Tommy Harrelson is chairing a committee to plan the celebration.

Q. What will happen to the Carr-Jorgensen house when the new parish hall is built?

A. Thought is being given to moving or demolishing the house, as the costs of bringing it up to current construction code is prohibitive. Similarly, using the old City Hall building for church offices or other functions on a long term basis is not realistic, because of the costs of bringing it up to ADA compliance.

Continuation of Newcomers Discussion.

Canon Jim led the discussion, asking Vestry members what they had wanted or expected in their first visits to St. Philip's.

As a first-time newcomer to St. Philip's what were you looking for?

- An inspiring service and sermon.
- Good music.
- What is the Book of Common Prayer?

- Friends
- A greeter to find me and invite me to coffee and introduce me to some people.

Canon Jim stated that he believed a group of people were needed whose role it is to pay attention to how newcomers are behaving and to be sensitive to what they are looking for, as not all newcomers want the same thing. For example, some may expect a visit from the Rector, others may not want that; some are looking for immediate opportunities to get involved beyond attendance on Sunday, others are not.

On the third visit, what are your expectations?

- That people will remember me.
- I want to get involved.
- I'd like a folder with some detailed information.
- It's time for a visit from one of the priests.
- A card or a handwritten note of welcome would be good.

Canon Jim asked Vestry to think about what would get newcomers to identify themselves. How we behave toward them depends on whether they filled out a card. If they have indicated they want to join, some appropriate measures might be:

- A visit from a member of the congregation
- An invitation to meet with the Rector at the church
- Services that are engaging and educational
- More information for new members on the website
- An inquirers' group
- Sensitivity throughout the congregation about noticing and talking to people they don't know

Canon Jim noted that many newcomers give up on St. Philip's because they aren't welcomed and embraced, and even by incorporating a well-thought-out welcoming process, "we're going to miss some people."

Other Business.

Vestry appointed these members to the nominating committee for Vestry candidates:

Marty Younts, Chair
 Barbara Edwards
 Tommy Harrelson
 Mo Beers
 Peter del Sol

Canon Jim asked Vestry members to tell Ruth if they would like to be a delegate to Convention.

Canon Jim and the Wardens have met with the Bishop and talked about forming a search committee for a new Rector. The Canon Matt Stockard will be coming to Southport later in October to explain the search process, and how the Diocese will be involved in identifying potential candidates and publicizing the search. Canon Jim will have no role in the search. He urged Vestry to think about all the people they knew who might know someone who would be a good Rector for St. Philip's.

Ruth praised Bishop Skirving and said, "He has been my strength."

Mike praised Fr. TJ for his education session on the Daily Office.

Adjournment.

Following an attitude check and a closing prayer by Canon Jim, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Fox, *Clerk*