

Minutes Vestry Meeting January 18, 2021

In attendance: The Rev. Lisa Fry, The Rev. Abby Pettee, Carlos Mello, Sr Warden, Edmund Hartt, Jr. Warden, Terry Mello, treasurer, Sarah Groman, Donovan Bowley, Bill Freeman, Dean Jackson, Jen Johanson, Eileen Morelli Excused: Shirley Fierro.

Meeting began with prayer at 5:34pm

Voted to accept minutes as amended: Edmund moved, Donovan seconded.

Rector's report: Coffee hour begins again. Discussed methodology. Thanked the outgoing vestry members – Sarah Groman and Carlos Mello

No report Sr. Warden (deferred until Old business)

Jr Warden gave us a medical update.

Budget 2021 discussion: Terry went over financials from 2020 (attached)

Bill F brought up tower expenses, Carlos explained all costs (see previous minutes and booklet of expenses and discussions/ process with the vestry.)

Terry proceeded to explain the budget and how PPP entered into our budget process. We are working with the Diocese closely in how we report the monies distributed. Expenses are very close to what we expected. We are in good shape: 15K below budget. Parishioners came through to fund the budget. Most of our budget is fixed costs. PPP funding is not on the report per Diocesan accounting at this time.

Endowment has done well, reflective of market.

Discussion on who oversees Endowment and Operating. Rector let the vestry know that the Endowment is separate and distinct from Operating. Endowment is overseen completely by Endowment Committee, Operating expenses overseen by Vestry.

Terry says she was conservative about budget expenses this year, finding that times make it difficult to be really certain what will happen this year.

Discussed IT Consultant and what they do. The Vestry was informed that Terry Mello was the IT Consultant in the budget as per Vestry approval in November 2019. We pay our IT person less than the going rate for independent contractor's regular fees. It's a reasonable cost. When one is working with computer and IT, it is necessary to have someone to troubleshoot our digital presence. Without computers, the church would not function. 5 Hours a week is the maximum amount funded. If less time is used, less is billed.

Salaries are flat for 2021. The costs appear to go up – but that's because of how the pay periods worked out last year. Benefits are higher due to the fact two more people are now having pension expenses.

Terry has looked at the costs from 2020 and has taken a 5 year average of costs. Supply clergy – only have enough in the budget for 2 Sundays. Terry continued line by line, and explained how the figures were drawn up. (5 year average on the whole.)

Discussion about telephone costs, and how we just recently did cost analysis and this is the best we can do right now.

Utilities are a fixed cost based on 5 year averages. Salaries are fixed. Insurance is fixed. Diocesan Allocation is fixed. There is only a tiny fraction of the budget that isn't fixed.

We will look at the budget again in April.

Motion to accept budget as given: Bill moved, Edmund seconded, Approved unanimously.

Stewardship update from rector. We will see how this new video/ mail effort in January/ February works. Most pledging is done online. Will do an ask. We also will do a small mailing for those who are not computer connected.

Discussed the Ashes to Go protocol in terms of Covid. Small side discussion about efficacy of opening soon. We are waiting for vaccines and doctor's suggestions.

Annual Meeting announcement. Vestry slate announced. Senior Warden will be Elizabeth Moran.

Rector's housing allowance was approved by vestry . (26,000)

The meeting was ended with Prayer. And was adjourned 6:30pm

Respectfully Submitted, Lisa Fry

....From Zoom recording