

Vestry Minutes
Saturday, January 23, 2016
Calvary Episcopal Church
Crook Auditorium

Vestry Present: Donovan Smith, Jan Gwin, Fred Piper, Chris Bird, Julie Bethell, Margaret Craddock, Palmer Jones, Tony Graves, Raymond Spence, David Leigh, Sarah Squire, Nicky Hitching, Celeste Herburger, Terre Sullivant

Vestry Absent: Claudia Haltom

Clergy Present: Chris Girata, Eyleen Farmer, Paul McLain

Others Present: Hank Word, Katie Owen, Hall Gardner

Rev. Chris Girata called the meeting to order and opened with a prayer.

Calvary name tags were distributed to new Vestry members. All Vestry members were encouraged to wear their nametags on Sundays.

Katie Owen and Hall Gardner presented the mostly final financials for 2015. There were several discussions around those numbers. Tony Graves asked for substantiation on the positive budget variances. Katie Owen and Hall Gardner stated that the Kitchen income positive variances were related to several events held on the Calvary campus like weddings, rehearsal dinners, non-parish events, community breakfast sponsorships/sales, and collection at Lenten Preaching Series and the Krewe dinner. Tony Graves also asked for more information on post-paid pledges and non-pledge gifts. Hall Gardner described post-paid pledges as those completed in following year, i.e. 2014 finished in 2015, and non-pledge gifts are unique, one-time gifts not associated with a pledge or other prior commitment, i.e. honorariums. Sarah Squire asked for detail on Community Service expense overage which Katie Owen described as an accounting issue.

After reviewing the financials for 2015, the 2016 Budget was presented by Katie Owen and Hall Gardner. The proposed 2016 budget is a balanced budget. Preliminary budget included a \$70,000 shortfall, so adjustments were made to balance expenses and revenues. This was partially offset by the receipt of an increase of \$20,000 in pledge. Additional savings were recognized when the website updates were deferred and \$40,000 in Episcopal Church Foundation consulting fees were paid by the Endowment.

Many member of the Vestry had a discussion about the need for a “priority list” when un-budgeted revenue is recognized. Donovan Smith asked that the website upgrades be placed at the top of this priority list. Monthly updates on budget will be provided at each meeting.

Chris Girata led a discussion on the long-term use of land and buildings within the Calvary campus. Chris Girata outlined the Grizzlies Prep usage of the recently purchased “Nachos” building and the “old HUB” building. Additional funds would be needed to make the Old HUB building usable. A portion of these funds could come from the capital campaign. Chris Girata also reminded the Vestry that Grizzlies Prep has long-term lease on Old Federal Reserve Building.

Fred Piper made a motion to approve the 2016 Budget. Tony Graves seconded this motion. The motion was approved.

Donovan Smith suggested that the Communication Committee review the marketing expenses and recommend additional uses or increases. Currently a billboard to support Lenten Preaching Series and Waffle Shop is planned for West-bound Poplar Ave. There will also be increased radio ads, a full page insert in the Commercial Appeal and purple souvenir cups.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Hank Word
Clerk