

Calvary Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2013
Crook Auditorium

Vestry Present: Alex Wise, Charles Shipp, Leslie Smith, Rose Johnston, Alison Boeving, Hall Gardner, Clay Woemmel, Brett Norman, John Pruett, Sam Cole

Others Present: Rev. Chris Girata, Rev. Ben Robertson, Katie Owen, Terre Sullivant

Call to Order: Rev. Chris Girata called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Opening Prayer: Rev. Chris Girata opened the meeting with prayer.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the November 19 vestry meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Katie Owen presented the income statement through November. She reported that real progress has been made on the expense side this year and that we should come in under budget for the year. The treasurer's report was approved.

Working Group Reports:

Binding Us Together: Team Leader Alex Wise reported that he is very pleased with Christian Formation and its offering of high-level programming this year. Planning is underway for future programs. Alex referred to the Sunday morning formation series on the social determinants of health featuring Kendra Hotz and Matt Mathews, and expressed the desire that Calvary could partner with Rev. Keith Norman's church, First Baptist Broad, on tackling glaring health disparities in our city.

Using Our Inheritance: Team Leader Hall Gardner reported on this year's stewardship campaign. At present, he is anticipating the same overall pledge amount as last year. However, this number will exceed last year's if 80 outstanding pledges are received. There has been a significant increase -- an average of 24% -- in individual pledges this year. Scott Crosby will chair the stewardship campaign again next year and will recruit an assistant to succeed him. The 2014 budget is still on hold until all pledge revenue is calculated; the budget will be approved at the January vestry meeting during the vestry's retreat January 24-25. The finance office will hire a part-time person to help with accounting. This person will provide help with Waffle Shop and allow Katie Owen to focus more on operations.

Rector's Report: Chris thanked Scott Crosby and Madge Clark for their work on the stewardship campaign and thanked John Pruett and his committee for their work on buildings and grounds. A luncheon is planned for volunteers who do weekly work at the church. He reported that the new Calvary web site is close to launching; it is a refreshed site with a new design; it is more accessible and responsive. Parishioners will be able to set up their own accounts. He thanked Drew Smith, Mary Alice Snowden and Katie Jenkins for their help on the site. Chris also announced the times for the three Christmas Eve services.

Clergy Reports:

Ben Robertson: Ben reported on the excitement about Christian formation on Sundays and Wednesdays. A second family sanctuary group has been formed on Wednesdays.

Warden's Report:

Alex Wise stated that his year as senior warden has been enjoyable and easy due to good and stable leadership at the church. Energy is high in the parish. He commended Katie Owen on the skills she has brought to the finance and operations department.

Old Business: Alex and John Pruett reported on The Hub and the extensive repairs needed to its building. John has brought in two contractors to document the needed repairs and the cost. The Hub has submitted one contractor's report, and disparity is anticipated between the reports. After discussion on the future of The Hub, the vestry agreed to present the following offer to The Hub: 1) Calvary will offer The Hub a 12-month lease agreement that doesn't exceed our grant commitment to them. The Hub will make the needed repairs to the building.

New Business: The vestry approved a change in its by-laws which will change the date of the parish annual meeting and election of vestry members. The change would allow the annual meeting and vestry election to take place in the 4th quarter of the year.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terre Sullivant, Clerk