

St. Thomas Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes for December 20, 2016

Present: Fr. John Lipscomb, Bette Dufour, Diane Mullen, Nancy Conley, George Pawliczak, Larry Block, Thelma Martin, Joan Allen, Janet Gizelt

Not Present: Mary Shriner

Fr. John Lipscomb opened the meeting with prayer at 7:00 pm.

Bette Dufour wanted to discuss rumors about finances and other issues first. She and John have been approached about several disturbing issues. Both assured us that St. Thomas is in better financial shape than it has been in six years. Fr. John is happy to be here and intends to stay. Causes of the rumors were discussed and we were all asked to spread the good word about St. Thomas. John will acknowledge the McConnell bequest and any other generous donations to dispel some of the rumors and we discussed only putting budget numbers in the bulletin on a monthly basis.

The **Treasurer's Report** for November was discussed. We are in good shape. Janet Gizelt motioned to accept the report, George Pawliczak seconded, and the motion passed.

The **Minutes** from the November meeting were reviewed by Janet Gizelt. Diane Mullen will type them up. Bette Dufour motioned to approve, Nancy Conley seconded, and the motion passed.

Rector's Report

Fr. John proposed the Vestry promote a positive message for the church and the new year. He is hoping to add a third service using Rite III using Ruth King sometime early next year. Plans for the Christmas services are on track.

New Business

The Finance Committee has met. Expenses are mainly in salaries. The tentative budget was discussed. Bette Dufour made a motion to use the portion of the McConnell bequest to balance the 2016 budget. This would bring the 2016 deficit to zero. The remaining portion of said bequest would be transferred to the Wells Fargo account. This motion was discussed and seconded by Janet Gizelt. The motion passed.

Bette reported that the Christmas Purse was very generous and that the check will be cut on December 21st. She recommended that next year we begin this process earlier so the checks can be given out at each service on the Sunday before Christmas.

The Thrift Shop funds distribution was discussed. Fr. John is committed to 100% of the Thrift Shop funds going to community outreach. Since other funds can be found for Capital Improvement, Joan Allen made a motion to remove the \$1,100 designated to the Capital Improvement Fund and redistribute that amount to the other recipients. The motion was seconded by Janet Gizelt. The motion passed. It was discussed that the intent of our outreach remain local and based on need.

At this point, the Vestry decided to amend the motion Bette Dufour made concerning the McConnell bequest. Nancy Conley revised the motion to read: Use the portion of the McConnell bequest to balance the 2016 budget to bring the 2016 budget deficit to zero. \$25,000 from the bequest would be transferred to the Wells Fargo account for reserve and the remaining (approximately \$6,000) would be transferred into the Capital Improvement, Larry Block seconded this motion and the motion was approved.

Old Business:

Nancy Conley reported that sometime between February and April the ECW will sponsor a spaghetti dinner to raise funds for outreach. She also reported that 30 generous food baskets were distributed prior to Thanksgiving to those in need. Also 24 residents of Kiva received gifts provided by ECW and St. Thomas.

Bette Dufour announced that Fr. John will give the parish a definitive answer about housing at the Dana Meiggs house by February.

George Pawliczak reported that the Thrift Shop roof replacement will begin this week and completed prior to the shop opening in January. He is working on other repairs that require the added monies in the Capital Improvement fund.

Fr. John closed the meeting with prayer at 8:45 pm

The next Vestry meeting will be January 17th and the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 29 at Noon.

Respectively submitted,

Diane Mullen