

St. Thomas Episcopal Church Vestry Minutes for February 21, 2017

Present: Fr. John Lipscomb, Bette Dufour, Diane Mullen, Nancy Conley, George Pawliczak, Thelma Martin, Joan Allen, Janet Gizelt and (new) Gail Carlson

Not Present: Larry Block

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

Treasurer Marjorie Carter was present to explain the monthly Treasurer's Report for new and current members. She explained that some line items are over percentage as we pay quarterly or once a year. Altar Flowers are in the red, but she stated that that is often the case until the monies start coming in. Bette Dufour moved that we move monies from St. Thomas Players into Parish Life and move Item 8151 (Thrift Shop Repairs) to Item 8024 (Capital Improvement) to collapse some of the line items. After discussion, Janet Gizelt seconded and the motion was approved.

The **Treasurer's Report** for January was discussed. George Pawliczak motioned to approve the report; Joan Allen seconded, and the motion passed.

The **Minutes** from the January meeting and the Annual Parish Meeting were reviewed. Nancy Conley motioned to approve both. Janet Gizelt seconded, and the motion passed.

Rector's Report

Fr. John is preparing for Lent and planning to do a High Holy Epiphany Service with incense on February 26. He is looking forward to cooking pancakes on Tuesday, February 28th at the Pancake Supper from 5:00-7:00 pm. Vestry members should be there at 4:00 pm to help. Janet Gizelt will work with Fr. John on the food order. Bette Dufour will prepare batter. Nancy Conley will decorate with help from Diane Mullen. There will be a table outside the Church after each service to take reservations.

There will be two services on Ash Wednesday (March 1) at Noon and at 7:00 pm. For the beginning of Lent.

New Business

Fr. John asked the Vestry to approve a motion to provide \$600 from unused Continuing Education funds to send our organist to a conference/performance in Washington, DC. Gail Carlson made the motion to approve the expenditure. Janet Gizelt seconded and the motion passed.

Bette Dufour introduced the idea of creating a Flower Endowment which would let parishioners endow an amount to the Flower Fund. Logistics were discussed and we will seek more information on this proposal.

The Parochial Report was reviewed and discussed. The difference in the number “on the books” and the number in “good standing” was explained by Fr. John. Gail Carlson moved to approve the report; Joan Allen seconded, and the motion passed.

Bette Dufour discussed the continuation of the alarm system at the Thrift Shop. After discussion, Fr. John motioned that the Junior Warden fix/repair windows and doors in that building, keep signs posted, and drop the ADT contract. Janet Gizelt seconded and the motion passed.

A request for totes for storage to provide more space in the kitchen was approved without the need for a motion and vote.

George Pawliczak announced a Spring Work-Day for March 18 for 8:00 am to Noon to prepare the buildings and grounds for the Easter season.

It was decided that the installation for new Vestry be held on March 5.

A letter from a parishioner was submitted and read aloud. After discussion, Fr. John was given a copy and a copy will be on file in the Parish Office.

Fr. John announced his resignation as of May 28, 2016. He has been here for six years and feels a change is best for the church and his family. He and his family will return to Titusville and take a break. He is tired and hurt and needs to focus on his health and future.

Fr. John closed the meeting with prayer at 8:15 pm.

After the meeting, Senior Warden Bette Dufour discussed the need to work with the Diocese in preparing for a new priest. She will set up a meeting. She reminded us that the Vestry will stay in place until a new priest is in place.

She also discussed getting an appraisal for the Dana Meiggs house so that the Vestry can make a more informed decision about whether to keep the house or sell it.

Respectively submitted,

Diane Mullen