

St. John's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting

November 7, 2022 7:00-7:50 pm via Zoom
Minutes

1. 7:00 pm – Opening Prayer

Attendance: Fr. Adam Trambley, Missy Baron, John Kachursky, Augie Santillo, Tracy Schliep, Madge Tamber, Becky Yoho and Vicki Barletta

2. 7:10 pm – Review of Minutes

Minutes for the 10-10-22 Vestry meeting were unanimously accepted on the motion of Becky, seconded by Madge.

3. 7:15 pm – Financial Topics

Treasurer's Report

Augie and Fr Adam discussed the financial reports and the volatility of the markets. September 30 of this year was a low point, but we need to do some preparation for a possible approaching recession. At this time, our checking account reserves as well as our cash reserves are being used for projects, so an account at FNB was closed, and \$107,000 was deposited to the main checking account to facilitate cash flow. Our pledges have been lower than what was budgeted, but income from the endowments was up a bit.

The Treasurer's Report was approved unanimously on a motion by Missy with a second by John.

Finance Committee

Given the prospects of increased market losses in the near future, PNC is offering the option of moving investments within the Diocesan Co-Mingled Trust (where St. John's Endowments reside) from stocks/bonds into cash which will pay an interest rate of about 3%, which may fluctuate a bit with the prime lending rate. The Finance Committee felt it made sense to move the endowment distributions that we need for the next year, as well as \$100,000 for a potential preschool project, into cash. This could be done via in the Unrestricted Operating Account, with our endowment distributions being moved into that fund. Therefore, our Finance Committee recommend to the Vestry that we move \$220,000 in the Unrestricted Operating Account from equity and debt instruments to cash that will be kept within the co-mingled trust at PNC. This recommendation was accepted unanimously by the Vestry.

Preparation of the 2023 Budget is set to begin in mid-November. When complete, it will go to the Finance Committee and from there to the Vestry.

Results of the 2021 Audit were discussed.

It is recommended that we have more than 1 person counting on Sunday mornings, and we will try to recruit at least 1 other person who can help with this.

It is also recommended that the Alms reporting to the Vestry be more consistent, and every attempt will be made to accomplish this goal.

Stewardship letters and pledge cards will be mailed out later this month, and Adam will use some sermon time to articulate a Vision for the Future.

4. 7:30 pm – Building Issues

Jay Koborie has begun work as our part time sexton.
Nothing new has developed in the flooring project.

5. 7:35 pm – Update on Preschool/Basement Renovation/Feeding Program Storage

A representative from EADS was here on Tuesday, 11/1, to measure areas for the proposed renovation including for electrical and plumbing work. We will be waiting for their proposal with costs.

The Food Warehouse may have some money available for us to be able to install a walk-in freezer for food storage. Also, there may be a way to repurpose some space off of Allen Hall to be used as a more convenient food pantry.

6. 7:40 pm – Other Updates

St John's Kids will now be meeting on Sunday afternoons at 4:00 for class and a light meal. They are using the "Love First" curriculum which stresses the community aspect of church and encourages the kids to become full participants in their church family. Anyone wishing to help prepare a meal is welcomed to also join in on the class.

The "Becoming Beloved Community" group will host a light supper on 11/9 and 11/16 to share the viewing of the documentary "American Creed" and discussion afterwards. There are also plans to visit Salem, OH on 11/26 to take the Underground Railroad Trolley Tour in order to view many of the historic sites important to the enslaved people attempting to get to safety.

7. 7:45 pm – Rector Updates

Jane's mother is here visiting and currently experiencing a decline in her health. Plans for her to move to her other daughter are now on hold as she may have to be hospitalized. If the situation at home has stabilized, Adam may be in Baltimore next week for several days of church meetings.

Tina continues to be having health problems but is trying some new treatments. She is currently coming in to the office 1 day a week.

There have been 80+ people in church the last couple of weeks which has lifted everybody's spirit! We are tentatively making recovery strides like the group suppers and choir and St. John's Kids' activities! Hopefully it will continue into the winter months!

8. 7:50 pm – Adjourn

Meeting adjourned on motion by Tracy, seconded by Augie

Next Vestry Meeting will be Monday, December 12, 2022, at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,
Victoria Barletta