

All Saints' Parish, Beverly Hills

Minutes of Vestry Meeting held on

Dec 13, 2016

Attendees:

Clergy: The Rev. Steve Huber

Vestry Members: Brian Ide, Colleen Dodson Baker, David Van Iderstine, Joseph Becci, Ken Sulzer, Maggie Reid, Ruth Loomis, Steven Fleenor, Theresa Amy, Sydney Nichols, Bob Craft, Jean-Marc Madelon

Staff: Debbie Gauer, Jennifer Hill

Dinner provided by Bob Craft

Minutes Taker: Maggie Reid

Prayer: Ruth Loomis

"In the midst of division the natal star still shines"

Psalm 150

Study: Ken Sulzer

Looking for common ground with people that we don't always see eye to eye with.

Read an excerpt from Reza Aslan's *Introducing Jesus the Zealot*.

Sparked a great conversation about our care for the homeless and how to set boundaries as a church, but also give love and care.

Approval of Minutes of November Meeting

Joe Becci

Ken Sulzer moved to approve the minutes

Colleen Dodson-Baker seconded the movement

The minutes were accepted.

Rector's Report

• Art Auction Recap

The auction was great fun, wonderful evening. We still have some money outstanding. It looks like we're going to net a little over \$20k. People are interested in doing it again, at least one more time. We learned some things about pricing. We have very little left over, so that is good news. We could have had higher minimum bids. Perhaps the "buy now" price should have been higher as well.

• Budget

Working a lot on the budget. Liz, Sidney and Steve have been working on it. Tomorrow night there will be a budget meeting with wardens and members of the finance committee. We are at the place where we need to do some cutting. We are at a better place now than we were one year ago.

• Christmas Prep

Staff has been getting ready for Christmas. Christmas bulletins go to print tomorrow. Jason Franklin has been working hard on this. Children's pageant will be at 4pm. Big service at 8pm and 11pm. AS2 Service at 6pm.

• Andy Carmichael

Today at Staff meeting Andy Carmichael announced that he will be leaving the staff at the end of January.

• Staff Christmas Party

Tomorrow there is a staff Christmas lunch. So if you call the office no one will answer.

• LGBT Center Christmas Party

LGBT Christmas lunch served 200 people. Tom's shoes offered free shoes to the youth. The food was amazing. The kids had a great time. Parking lot had games. There was a coat give-away. Probably spent \$500 on the event.

• Diocesan Convention Recap

We elected a new Bishop, John Taylor. He is vicar of St. John's church and school in Santa Margarita in the South Bay. He won on the 8th ballot. The other candidate that a lot of people, including us, was Paul Fromberg who is a priest in San Francisco. The Wednesday before the convention we had a party with people in their 20s and 30s who knew all about the co-adjutor Bishop candidates. They were all in favor of Paul Fromberg. John Taylor wants to build bridges and bring people together.

There was a resolution acknowledging John Bruno for his 17 years of Ministry.

- **Sanctuary Diocese Resolution**

It was amazing how overwhelmingly it passed. This isn't about housing people in our basement. It's also not about violating laws. Maybe it means going to the home of someone who is about to be deported and pray with them until someone shows up. Bishop Diane Bruce runs the multi-cultural division of the diocese. She asked what would help them and they said "a resolution that the Episcopal Church is standing with us." The resolution doesn't command any action. It just says to consider doing everything up to and including housing people. The Diocese will give full support. An article in Sojourner Magazine suggests that you involve your congregation when you decide what to do. Joe Becci suggested that we vote to affirm this resolution. We decided to get something in writing and vote to affirm it at the next meeting. David Van Iderstine agreed to write something out for us to affirm. From a pastoral standpoint Steve Huber believes that we need to affirm this in order to let our parishioners know that we will support them if they need our help.

- **Vestry Party**

We will have a winter celebration in January to say good-bye to our old Vestry. Sunday January 29 at 6:30pm, after 5pm Evensong.

Leadership Development Committee

Joe Becci

Vestry nominating committee is wrapping up their work. We will report out the new vestry members at our next meeting. We are not casting our net wide enough for leaders in our parish. We need *pipeline management*. Identify people early on who are potential leaders. Help

mentor them along. Intentionally seek out those with diverse backgrounds. Always still pick the most qualified people. Instead of asking people whom they want to nominate for the Vestry, the Vestry could submit a slate of people to the nominating committee as a potential source for their choices. Vestry will organize a team to help find leaders for the church who may one day become vestry members.

Stewardship Report

Debbie Gauer

Vestry Stewardship Report

2017 Total Pledge Prospects, \$1,346,640 from 348 Pledgers

Distribution:

7 give > \$5,000

12 give \$2,000-\$5,000

62 give < \$2,000.

Pledge Performance comparison 2016 v. 2017 sheet

Notes to John Sweetland's Analysis for 2016 Pledge Year sheet

John is having a cocktail party where John wants to make a pitch about fundraising. He is committed to trying to help us. He wants to organize within categories TOP (More than \$20k), CORE (\$5k-\$20k), BASE (Less than \$5k). The CORE group will be invited to the cocktail party and will be asked to be ambassadors. He will ask them to encourage other CORE members to increase their pledge. John Sweetland does not know the amount parishioners pledge. He only knows what bracket these few fall into.

Liz said, big checks are starting to come in. Generally people wait until the end of the year to pay the church their pledge.

Financial Report

Sydney Nichols

October revenues of \$94k were \$18k below budget – pledged income of \$66k was 11% below budget and special gifts of \$10k were budgeted to be \$21k. On a YTD basis, pledged income of \$1.0M was \$38,000, or 4% below

budget, but 7% ahead of last year. Special gifts of \$221,000 were approximately \$62,000 below budget and \$73,000 above last year. This results in total YTD revenues of \$1.4M, which is 7% or \$100,000 below budget but \$109,000 or 8% above 2015.

A quick look at YTD expense shows that in total they are on budget. We are looking at these in a more detailed fashion as part of the budgeting process which is going on now.

So October's operating loss was about as budgeted and YTD operating income comes out to be a loss of \$354,000 or \$87,000 below budget. We are hoping for a good crop of revenues in November and December.

As an aside, Steve Huber, Liz, Adam and Sydney spent a few hours yesterday working on the budget. Of interest to all of you, our current projection for 2016 has revenue coming in \$118,000 below budget and expenses, \$8,000 above budget. This results in a total projected loss of \$126,000. We are all hoping for a ton of December contributions. Obviously, we will keep you posted.

As year-end approaches, we will need to think about paying \$100,000 or so currently in Accounts Payable and also paying down the Line of Credit (currently at \$300,000).

And, finally, our total reserve fund, to be used for "special maintenance," was \$2.7M as of October 31.

- News on the Bill Jones Condo. In the process of getting a relator lined up. They are going to put it on the market now.

Administration

Jennifer Hill

- ✓ Fake grass has been put in Steve's backyard.
- ✓ Sprinklers have been checked. A man is coming the second week of January to fix the sprinklers. We will add a sprinkler timer and replace an old one.
- ✓ The A/C and the Heater are having problems. They are getting fixed.
- ✓ After the events at the Rectory. One thing we need to create is an event policy for clean up. Perhaps the group that is in charge of the event has to pay a cleaning fee. This will be implemented next year.
- ✓ We will work on a tech event policy for technical help for events. We will figure out the best way to provide these services for people.
- ✓ There was an issue with Wheel-Chair accessibility at the Rectory at

the LGBT party. We need to address this issue. As well as having a wheel-chair accessible restroom at the Rectory.

Other Business:

Bob Craft is part of a Bereavement ministry to help with funerals. He wants the church to know that they are available when they are needed. The group deals with people who are in hospice, they visit them and bring communion. When there is a funeral they are there to greet people, help to usher, to provide water, to lem, to be present for the family and other logistical things.

Steve Huber closed the meeting with a prayer.

- REMINDER - Vestry Budget Workshop on Tuesday, January 17 at 6:30 pm
- Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 24, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Joseph C. Becci
Sr. WARDEN

Ruben L. Loomis
Clerk