

**St. Brendan the Navigator
Minutes of the Vestry/Renewal Team Meeting
March 15, 2018**

Present: Lis Ingoldsby, Josephine Jacob, Pete Dane, Barbara Kourajian and Vesta Kowalski. Miriam called in.

Senior Warden Lis Ingoldsby called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m. Lis offered an opening prayer.

Minutes

Pete Dane moved to accept the Minutes of the February 8th Vestry Meeting. Barbara seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Consideration of 2018 Budget and 2017 Diocesan Assessment Due

We reviewed the approved November 2017 budget and compared it to the Finance and Stewardship Ministry's (FSM) recommended budget. Pete reported there were no changes in the recommendations from the FSM meeting on February 15th:

The FSM recommends in light of revenues actually received from the pledge drive, the Vestry consider and adopt the budget they proposed in December. They believe a true balanced budget for 2018 is very important for the Congregation as it confronts major decisions going forward. They also recommend the payment of the balance of the Diocesan Assessment be made when and only when the Vestry adopts a true balanced budget and there is no cash flow problem.

Pete stated since many of our pledges were pre-paid, the cash flow problem should not be an issue. The budget passed is now \$7,000 in deficit.

Lis Ingoldsby had a discussion with Dick Rozene (Treasurer of the Diocese) about the outstanding assessment. Dick is requesting the payments we are making to the Diocese be put towards our balance due before we even think about paying our 2018 assessment.

Vesta reported the Outreach Ministry met last week and is ready to write checks to projects they would like to support, but decided to wait until the Vestry revisited the budget. Their main interests are: food insecurity, children's programs (especially supporting the work Linda Shepard is doing), and Anne Williams' project of collecting medical supplies. They decided to fund a \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating DISHS senior.

There was considerable discussion on what could be adjusted to balance the budget. Pete Dane moved to amend the Vestry-approved budget of November 2017 as attached to show adjustments to Clergy Augmentation and Outreach (Clergy Augmentation changed to \$3200; Outreach changed to \$4500). The Vestry noted there was \$2,329.94

available for food-related projects for the Outreach Ministry to use. We agreed to authorize and encourage the Outreach Ministry to raise additional funds. The first \$3,000 raised will be applied to the Outreach budget. Any extra proceeds will be split equally between the Outreach budget and Operations. Jo seconded the motion. The motion was approved. This leaves us with a \$1,587 deficit budget.

Pete moved to pay the remaining balance due of the 2017 Diocesan Assessment in full. Miriam seconded. The motion passed.

Lis will convey the Vestry's decision on the Outreach budget to Martha Dane. A summary of our decisions on the 2018 budget and Diocesan Assessment will be put in The Navigator.

Other Business

- Holy Week -- St. Brendan's will have services on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Easter morning with a dinner following the service. Other services at area churches will be listed in The Navigator.
- Lis reminded us of tonight's Third Thursday Music Gathering and Saturday's special concert featuring Irish music to celebrate St. Patrick's Day.
- The Bishop's visit will be May 20th. The planning packet for his visit will be given to the Worship and Music Ministry.
- Lis told us that Barbara Clark of Brewer will be an additional supply priest. We had a brief discussion on the sustainability of using supply priests. Lis reminded us we voted in the Renewal Plan to work towards a more permanent priestly presence.

We decided to have a parish meeting on June 24th to discuss calling a Priest-in-Charge. Miriam raised the question of a second phase of the Stewardship appeal. Liz stated a second round of Stewardship will be needed if we want to increase our priestly presence – there has to be an appetite for this and it needs to happen in the summer. The June meeting is an opportunity to weigh in on this. Liz asked us to think about this and do some prayerful thought. We need to ask the right questions at this meeting; we will discuss the questions when we meet in April.

The next Vestry/Renewal Team meeting will be April 19th at 1:30 p.m. Dates for future meetings: May 17th at 1:30 p.m.
June 21st at 1:30 p.m. (tentative date)
July 10th at 10 a.m.
Annual Meeting will likely be July 22nd or July 29th

We closed the meeting by reading the Prayer of St. Brendan together. The meeting was adjourned at 3:34 p.m.

Barbara Kourajian, Clerk