

The Church of the Ascension
Minutes of the Vestry
March 21, 2023

Present: Rev. Stewart Tabb, Kristin Huddle, Susan Meredith, Cindy Jones, Katherine Lawrence, Doug Thompson, Rick Jones

I. Welcome: Stewart Tabb called the meeting to order at 7pm. Susan Meredith led the opening devotion.

II. Check in: Do you have a Bible verse you turn to again and again? What is it and why? If not a Bible verse a prayer. Discussion followed with favorite verses and Bible passages.

III. Committee Reports:

1. Finance – Budget for February was discussed.
 - a. Expenses for February increased by \$7000. Additional research will be done to determine cause of overage.
 - b. R&M expenses doubled over projection.
 - c. Pledges exceeded monthly projection.
 - d. Pledge Calls – Updates given.
 - e. Doug Thompson will train people for Audit.
2. DCDI Report – Kris Huddle provided update. Total of 45 responses received out of 65 active members. Forty-three responses from survey monkey and two paper responses. DCDI team will continue to work with survey responses and adding functions for relationship building,

IV. Vestry Items

1. Parochial Report reviewed by Stewart.
 - a. Member numbers are individuals, not households.
 - b. Numbers reviewed on membership increase & decrease, and attendance.
 - c. A motion was made to accept report. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.
2. Bring list of potential future vestry members in next meeting.

V. Clergy Report: Stewart Tabb present.

1. Day School – Director Mark Hattler has resigned due to health issues. Assistant director, Jennifer Wilson, is moving into the interim director's position. The board will review this position in 2 months to determine if any changes are needed. Jordie DiFernando is moving to the school in full time position.
2. Parish Administrator - Jordie will vet & train Parish Administrator replacement. Reduction in position hours to 12 hours.
3. Revision of Diaconal Agreement – a new agreement was proposed to pay a smaller amount to our deacon Genevieve Nelson, which will allow her access to the clergy wellness programs sponsored by the Church Pension Fund.
 - a. Past agreement - \$1200 discretionary. \$6000 professional expense
 - b. New agreement - \$600 Discretionary fund. \$100/ a month (\$1200/year) (\$18/month or \$216/year pension) +7.65/month or 91.20/year Social security – with \$5000 professional expenses. Net cost is the same as past agreement.
4. A motion was made to accept the Revised Diaconal Agreement. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. Holy Hike – Botanical Garden on April 1st.

VI. Schedule/Devotions: Susan Meredith led the closing devotions. The next regular Vestry Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday April 18, 2023 @ 7 PM. Rick Jones to lead the devotions at this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen R. Newbern