

**Episcopal Church of the Advent  
Vestry Meeting Minutes  
December 17, 2023**

**Meeting opened with a prayer by Fr. A. Leonard at 11:58 am.**

**Attendance:**

Vestry members present were: M. Francis, F. Garcia, A. Gloria, D. Hammond, C. Hoffman, R. Hudson, Rev. A. Leonard, L. Price, J. Rutenberg, B. Smith, N. Smith, and S. Werth. Outgoing Treasurer Alison Cioffi-Brown and incoming Treasurer Sherrie Maahs were also present,

**Minutes:**

Motion to approve the Vestry minutes of November 19 made by F. Garcia and seconded by C. Hoffman, Approved by the Vestry.

**Treasurer's Report:**

1. The Profit and Loss Budget Sheet was discussed by A. Cioffi-Brown. There was an increase in donations in the last quarter of 2023, but an ongoing deficit remains. Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report made by D. Hammond and seconded by A. Gloria. Approved by the Vestry.
2. The Budget for 2024 recommended by the Finance Committee was discussed. An increase in the funding for a new organist was suggested. Ways of reducing the annual deficit were discussed including an ongoing stewardship campaign throughout the year, a new capital campaign, licensing for raffles, and "50/50" events. Motion to approve the 2024 Budget made by F. Garcia and seconded by J. Rutenberg. Approved by the Vestry.

**Rector's Report:**

Fr. A. Leonard mentioned a new date for the Parent's Potluck Dinner: 1/20/24. He also discussed budgetary needs, stewardship, and recruitment of new church members.

**Senior Warden's Report:**

B. Smith mentioned exploring new ways for spiritual growth.

**Junior Warden's Report**

L. Price mentioned the 20 year ordination anniversary of former Advent Rector Fr. John Mitchell.

**Old Business:**

1. The ECW Christmas Bazaar earned about \$5800.
2. Lew Price discussed some Stewardship ideas including a thank you list for pledges received in December to be placed in the Anchor and/or Sunday service insert. N. Smith indicated a future modification of the church website to permit online donations.
3. Fr. A. Leonard mentioned the report of the Nominating Committee to be distributed for voting at the Annual Meeting in January.

**New Business:**

1. Fr. A. Leonard reminded the Vestry that the Annual Meeting will be held at 9 am between services on January 21, 2024. Written reports by committee chairpersons are due by January 12, 2024 to be ready for the Annual Meeting.
2. Fr. A. Leonard indicated that he had a lead for a church organist.
3. A Differences Course by the Archbishop of Canterbury may be offered during Lent at our church depending upon the interest of the congregation.

**Other Committee Reports:**

None

**Motion to Adjourn:**

Motion made by J. Rutenberg and seconded by F. Garcia. Approved by the Vestry.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Joel Rutenberg  
Vestry Clerk**