

St. Peter's Episcopal Church
Vestry Regular Meeting – January 27, 2025
AGENDA

1. Adoption of Agenda

Formation

2. Order for Evening Prayer

Discussion

3. Approval of Minutes

4. Interim Rector Report

Action

5. Select Search Committee

6. Adopt 2025 Budget

 a. Review 2024 Year-End Summary (Treasurer's/Finance Report)

 b. Review and Approve the 2025 Budget

Information

7. Senior Warden Report

 a. Nominating Committee Update

 b. Listening Session Next Steps

 c. Other, Topical Items

8. Junior Warden Report

9. Key Upcoming Dates:

 i. February Vestry Meeting – February 24 @ 5:30 pm in Room 201

 ii. Annual Meeting – February 26 @ 5:00 pm in Burns Hall

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Vestry Minutes

January 27, 2025

Members Present: Fr. Doug Hodsdon, Ken Saitow (Senior Warden), Jim Carpenter (Junior Warden), Annette Bell (Substitute Clerk), Leigh Coulter Beal, Kevin Green, Rob Hicks, Diane LoCastro, Connie McDaniel (Treasurer), Clint Smith, Tracy Smythe, Beth Thornton, Rhonda Warren (Clerk), Bob White

Others Present: Kim Page (Rector Search Committee Chair)

Fr. Doug called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Fr. Doug established a quorum.

Adoption of Agenda: Leigh moved and Diane seconded a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

FORMATION

Fr. Doug presented the Order for Evening Prayer.

DISCUSSION

Approval of Minutes: Fr. Doug requested three amendments, which the vestry agreed upon. Rhonda noted the changes and will amend the minutes. Leigh moved and Jim seconded a motion to accept the amended minutes. Motion carried.

Interim Rector Report: Fr. Doug is working on thank you letters to those who have pledged to the church. He met with the Worship Committee and has planned from Ash Wednesday through Easter. He acknowledged Connie's hard and excellent work as our treasurer and expressed appreciation for her.

ACTION

Select Search Committee: Kim Page, Rector Search Committee Chair, presented the process, requirements, and considerations for determining the 10 search committee members presented to the vestry and the anticipated timeline to call our new rector. It was noted that considerable time, thought, and prayer were given to narrowing the selection from 29 excellent nominees. The absence of representation of families with young children was acknowledged. Efforts to include this demographic were unsuccessful for various reasons, including young parents citing the inability to meet the time commitment. Two committee members have EYC graduating seniors, and it is believed their proven commitment to our youth would be reflected in the search and that there is EYC representation on the committee. Kim stressed that the youth committee member would not travel during the process as expected of the adults. The vestry requested timely communication to those not chosen to serve on the committee. Rob moved and Bob seconded a motion to accept the Rector Search Committee membership recommendations as presented. Motion carried.

Adopt 2025 Budget

- a. **Review 2024 Year-End Summary (Treasurer's/Finance Report):** Connie prepared and submitted the *2024 Year-End Financials* report. She highlighted that generous donations have fully funded the Schuyler, Search Committee, and Outreach restricted accounts. We were over budget in 2024 in several areas, and those anticipated expenses are accounted for in the 2025 budget. Funds in the rector sabbatical account can be reallocated at our discretion. She also noted that our reserve accounts are well-funded and capable of funding future capital needs.
- b. **Review and Approve the 2025 Budget:** Connie prepared and submitted the *2025 Budget* report. We reviewed the *2025 Budget Narrative and Key Assumptions* document, emphasizing our goal to fully support our mission of *Knowing, Loving, Worshiping & Serving Christ*. Ken outlined some of the headwinds we will face in 2025. This proposed budget accounts for a staff merit increase and Mother Rachel's transition to canonical residence, and the benefits intrinsic to that designation. Rob moved and Bob seconded a motion to approve the 2025 budget for \$1,214,639.60. Motion carried.

INFORMATION

Senior Warden Report:

- a. **Nominating Committee Update:** The Vestry and Diocesan Convention Nominating Committee has been meeting with potential members to both identified. Outreach to candidates has begun.
- b. **Listening Session Next Steps:** The most common feedback Ken has received since Mother Becky's presentation on 12/16 is what are our next steps. Ken asked if we felt the need to communicate and, if so, what we would like to communicate. He offered a prepared document of suggestions, which were well received and will be considered for implementation. It was decided that a short summary of Mother Becky's presentation would be created to simplify the large volume of information communicated to the congregation and allow for more precise focus in determining the next steps. We agreed to reaffirm our church mission through communication in our Vestry Voice. We brainstormed intergenerational activities, such as beach eucharist, parish picnic, or the shrimp boil, to provide opportunities for our members to spend time with and get to know one another. We decided to move our annual meeting on 2/26 from 5 PM to 5:30 PM to allow more time for working parishioners to arrive.
- c. **Other, Topical Items:** Ken will follow up on a replacement for Ann Barrow, IDN Coordinator. We discussed our use of paper for vestry documents, and in the future, a few printed packets will be prepared for every meeting for those who prefer paper. Others will print their packets or review the documents digitally during the meeting.

Junior Warden Report: Jim asked that we keep an eye out for things on campus that may need attention and report them to him or the office. Otherwise, he referred us to his written report.

Key Upcoming Dates:

- i. February Vestry Meeting – February 24 @ 5:30 pm in Room 201
- ii. Annual Meeting – February 26 @ 5:30 pm in Burns Hall

Bob moved and Diane seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Annette Bell, Substitute Clerk of the Vestry