

All Saints-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church
Santa Barbara, CA.
Minutes of the December Vestry Meeting
12/13/2016

Present: Cairns, Evans, Hawes, Mack, McFadden, Haskill-Melville, Messerlian, Reeder, Schaible, Sigler and Swift

Absent: Davidson, DiTirro, Telleen-Lawton, Watson

Clergy and Staff: A. Eyer-Delevett, V. Mouradian, and K. Winters

Formation:

The Advent Meditation on the gospel of Luke 1:24-25; 39-40 - we discussed questions from Rev. Aimee: What was the single happiest moment in your life? And who is "your Elizabeth" in your life? Who has helped you be ware of God's working in your life?

Action:

Minutes of November Vestry Meeting: Motion by Mack to approve, with second by Haskill-Meville. All approved.

Finance Report: (Monthly Financials not available in advance due to computer problems. Approval will take place at next Vestry meeting.) Fred Allen reported that the good news year-to-date has been the ability of the Church to keep Expenses low; \$33,687 less than expected.

Friendship Center Lease Resolution: *We the Vestry hereby authorize Senior Warden Thomas Mack to enter into an addendum to the current lease between the Church and the Friendship Center, the principal term of which is a rental payment, in addition to maintenance payments, of \$20,000 per year, payable quarterly.*

Motion by Macfayden, seconded Melville; All approved.

Discussion:

Sunday Transition Team (for when main sanctuary is closed due to construction): \$100,000 budgeted for this within the Sanctuary Preservation and Readiness project.

Chair Charlie Cairnes reported that this Committee has already started meeting regularly, with the goal of keeping church services on this campus.

1st consideration was to utilize the Church Hall, but due to size limitations this will require more than two services each Sunday, and entry will most likely be through the schoolyard.

2nd consideration involves the use of the Friendship Center Atrium, with complications in accommodating both their daily, during the week, population and our own congregation.

3rd consideration would utilize the parking lot on the sea-side of the Church Office. This would include the purchase of a large (semi) permanent, high-end tent in which many accommodations could be made to provide the comfort, ministry and practicality of regular church services, with a major objective of assuring consistency for all. Main questions up front revolve around out door tent Permitting requirements, on which we hope to have assistance from Architect Bob Easton. Anyone wishing to be involved in these discussions and meetings can contact Charlie or Rev. Aimee.

Budget & Pledge Follow-up: Tom Mack reported 163 Pledges for 2017 have come in to date, for a total of \$683,000. An additional \$102,000 is needed for our budget, but realistically we can expect about \$765 - \$775,000. Tom also addressed the issue of many Pledges not being paid in full this past year. The "unfulfillment" of annual pledges has historically been a concern, but it has recently reached a high of 12% with no obvious explanation. Other key, sensitive issues involve Anne Hopkinson leaving Church employment March of 2017, and the possibility of additional income from the parish school, or by

decreasing the Outreach budget, or reducing the work time of our Sextons. Rev. Aimee intends that we move toward year-around Stewardship/Giving, which can be assisted by small group conversations, one-on-one discussions and by taking a more pro-active stance on obtaining annual Pledges.

Town Hall Meeting follow-up: Rev. Aimee reported on three key issues of concern:

#1- The exposed organist's head could be hidden behind a screen.

#2- Options are being explored to have high altar silver *cross* remain in position.

#3- The existing high altar itself, while steeped in tradition, has served as merely a shelf for some time now and has no other function. That specific piece of furniture could be re-located to a different part of the Church.

The fact needs to be accepted that there is no way for us to install a new organ as planned, and not experience some visual change.

More Listening Sessions will be scheduled in early 2017, displaying latest adjustments to plans.

* This Vestry needs to better attend to the **2nd Sunday Refreshments Table** duties.

** Kathleen distributed blank All Saints thank-you cards, with addressed envelopes, for Vestry members to write personalized notes to all those who sent in Pledges for 2017. We are asked to get these out as soon as convenient.

Please note all up-coming important dated & reminders as shown on Agenda.

Closing Prayer for **January 2017: Sally Messerlian**

Meeting Adjourned at 7:05pm

Respectfully submitted, by Pamela Hawes