Church of Bethesda-By-The-Sea
Minutes of Vestry Meeting
March 16, 2016

Vestry Members Present
1. Barbara Callahan (2018)
5. James Harlan (Rector)
11. Tanner Rose (2017)

Officers Present
1. James Harlan, Rector
2. Bobbie Leek, Senior Warden (2017)
3. Tanner Rose, Junior Warden (2017)
5. Zachary Shipley, Clerk (2017)

Vestry Members Absent & Excused

Vestry Members Absent & Not Excused
[none]

Also Present
1. Fred Staley, Associate for Administration

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Fr. James at 4:00 PM.

There was a period of prayer and contemplation of a paraphrase of scripture, taken from The Message.

The Rector reported that, because Susan Keenan’s work-related travel and other responsibilities had become more burdensome, she had asked to be replaced as Clerk.

A motion was made by Beth Cole and seconded by Jodie Payne to accept Susan Keenan’s resignation and to appoint Zachary Shipley to be Clerk until the end of the next Annual Meeting. The motion was adopted unanimously by voice vote.

The Rector and Fred Staley presented the Parochial Report to be submitted to the Diocese for the year 2015. The Report was discussed.

A motion was made by Charles McGill and seconded by Barbara Callahan to approve submission of the Parochial Report as presented. The motion was adopted unanimously by voice vote.
Fred Staley presented the financial results from the beginning of the year through February. The results were discussed, and Fred answered questions. He explained that the material unfavorable variances were mainly timing differences that would be reversed with the passage of time; i.e., events that had been budgeted to occur in the first two months of the year were now expected to occur in March or later. In particular, Fred explained that he had performed a donor by donor analysis of the unfavorable variance in Annual Campaign revenue, and he had found that of the $208 thousand variance, $185 thousand is explained by large contributions from three donors; these contributions were budgeted to be received before the end of February but are now expected in March or April. Fred reported that two of those donors had already made their contributions in March and that one of those two contributions was larger than budgeted. Upon a question by a Vestry member, Fred and the Rector explained the process by which outreach grants are made.

The minutes of the Vestry Meeting on February 17, 2016 were reviewed and discussed. A motion was made by Tanner Rose and seconded by B. B. Sory to approve the minutes with three corrections: (1) correction of the spelling of Jodie Payne’s name, (2) correction of the spelling of Jim Myers’s name and (3) correction of the paragraph beginning with the words “Audit help” to read as follows: “Audit help - Charles McGill reported that he had met with the auditors and they expect to begin the audit by the 21st of March and complete it before the Vestry Meeting in May.”

Fred Staley and Paul Coombs presented Stewardship results to date. There followed a discussion of the results and the future steps the Stewardship Committee would take.

The Rector and Paul Coombs led a discussion of parishioners who have expressed dissatisfaction with some aspect of the Church and how best to address their concerns.

The Rector reported briefly on his attendance of the meeting of the Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Churches.

The Rector and the Senior Warden announced that it seemed best to hold the Vestry Retreat in September or October (not in May as previously planned). They explained that the retreat will begin before dinner on a Friday and continue all day the following Saturday. The Rector proposed four Friday-Saturday dates and asked Vestry Members to indicate their availability on each of the dates. The dates were: September 9-10, September 16-17, October 14-15 and October 28-29.

The Rector announced that, at present, he does not plan to call Vestry Meetings in the months of June, July or August of 2016.

Respectfully submitted,