

## Vestry Minutes | December 20, 2023

Submitted by the Clerk of the Vestry

### Members in Attendance

Fr. Perry Mullins  
Molly Mitchell, Sr. Warden  
Karen Friedland, Jr. Warden  
Daniel Barnes, Clerk  
Julia Fox  
EJ Nowak  
Tye Stewart  
Courtney Williams  
Katrinka Clark  
Michelle Hutton  
Chris Mathew  
Scott Patterson  
Tucker Thompson  
Jackie White, Treasurer

### Members Not in Attendance

Julia Shahid

### Non-Members in Attendance

Mtr. Kathy Heitmann

### Call to Order, Prayers, Consent Calendar

Fr. Perry opened the meeting at 7:27pm and offered a prayer. Courtney Williams read and discussed Matthew 5:13-16. Fr. Perry asked for the approval of the consent calendar, and hearing no objection or amendment, it was approved.

### Information and New Business

#### Finance Report

Jackie White asked for questions about the financial report. Hearing none, she reviewed the report with the Vestry. Courtney moved to accept the financial report, with Katrinka Clark seconding. The report was adopted unanimously.

#### 2024 Budget

Julia Fox moved to approve the budget, and EJ Nowak seconded. Discussion ensued. Fr. Perry noted the salary for two new hires would be sourced from unrestricted cash, creating a budget deficit of about \$55,000 for the year. Concerns about the deficit will be addressed at the annual meeting. Courtney asked about a plan for next year's budget if income doesn't increase to cover the salaries. Fr. Perry replied that adjustments can be made in other areas to balance the budget for next year if necessary. Jackie noted that restricted cash has a higher balance than is typical, which provides more flexibility. Fr. Perry stressed this is a special moment for St. Peter's as many other churches are experiencing decreasing attendance and downsizing, adding that St. Peter's was listed this year as the 5th largest church in the Diocese.

The organist will be out for a period of time in May, requiring an interim replacement at about \$400/wk. Tye Stewart asked about the telephone/Internet increase, and Jackie replied she will ask Marianna for details. Jackie noted the Diocese lowered our assessment by 0.5%. Fr. Perry indicated that nursery worker salaries were increased to recruit candidates.

The budget was passed unanimously.

### Sabbatical Wrap-Up

Fr. Perry indicated that St. Anselm in New York is training young adults out of college in a semi-monastic setting similar to his summer studies. He asked for permission to make a trip to St. Thomas in New York City in the spring using leftover funds from his sabbatical. It was discussed that any remaining funds after the trip will be kept in the Sabbatical account to help fund future sabbaticals. Molly made the motion, with Karen Friedland seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

### Old Business

EJ Nowak asked about reserved study results, and Fr. Perry replied they were not available. Chris Mathew asked about candidates for the new positions, and Fr. Perry replied he will be meeting the candidates in January before making an offer. He indicated there were six candidates for the Parish Administrator to interview in January.

### Announcements & Adjournment

Fr. Perry announced the Leadership Workshop on January 27 and a Vestry Retreat on Saturday, April 27.

Molly Mitchell moved to adjourn at 8:25pm, with Scott Patterson seconding. The vote was unanimous and Molly closed in prayer.

Prayerfully submitted,  
Daniel Barnes

---

Approved:

Date:

1/24/23

Signed:

*Daniel Barnes*

Daniel Barnes, Clerk