

Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church
Finance Committee Meeting
Minutes of December 9, 2021

A. Opening

1. Attendance: Jessica Evans, Bet Hunter, Tara McConathy, Posey Saenz, Dick Sylvan, Dick Viebig, Kirk Waldron, Larry Wood
2. The meeting opened with a prayer.
3. The minutes of the November 2021 meeting of the Finance Committee were moved for approval by Dick V., seconded by Posey S. and approved by all.

B. Financial Reports

1. Larry W. reported that we are still tracking a little ahead with our income and expect December to be a good month. We are a little over with expenses but it is almost exactly what we are over in electricity.
2. Larry W. moved to approve submission of the November financial statements to the Vestry and Dick V. seconded. The motion was approved by all.

C. Other Discussion Items

1. 2022 Stewardship Campaign & Budget Planning:
 - a) Tara M. started by outlining the differences between option A & option B. Option A is our budget mostly unchanged with the exception of a 15% cut to music interns and music staff singers. Option B includes drastic reductions to security and custodial that would significantly impact the way campus functions.
 - b) With the latest stewardship numbers, we are significantly behind where we were on this day last year. Bet H. and Posey S. both noted that this time of the year is when the stewardship council, rector and senior warden look at the list of names and see who is still around and who is not and determine who needs to be contacted personally; Mike Murphey and Rand Key will make a plan. Dick V. and Larry W. both said that the finance committee can offer to participate, make calls, etc. Dick S. added that some people are still on pandemic mode and tuned out. There are clearly people who haven't come back. Bet H. suggested we start with the top 30 names, decide if they've moved, changed churches and then widen the net. Jessica E. will start pulling the list to include name, email and cell number but no amount will be included. Posey S. added that talking points for those who are making the calls would be helpful because there are some intentional changes to wording like "giving estimate" instead of "pledge" that are important to stay consistent in our messaging.
 - c) Bet H. added that the importance of personal connection might be more critical this year. Can we divide the list up by who we know? Also, the discussions around the building project may have thrown off a few people and we need to be aware of that.
 - d) Dick V. added that Rand and Mike need to bless this plan and Neil too. Larry W. will send an email tomorrow doing just that.
 - e) Jessica E. added that she just got the \$100,000 pre-paid pledge this afternoon and it was included in the total amount of pledges you all saw this evening. Posey S. said that is good news, but even if we get these pledges in, we are still looking at significant cuts and no raises. Something has to give; this is not sustainable.

D. Closing

1. The meeting closed with a prayer.