

MINUTES  
MEETING OF THE VESTRY  
PALMER MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
Tuesday, March 22, 2016

Members in attendance

Neil Willard, Rector  
Abigail Butler  
Courtney Daniell-Knapp, Sr. Warden  
Ruth Davies  
Will Denham  
Ellee de Groot  
Pam Harvey  
Stuart Kensinger  
Jim Lober, Clerk (present by conference call)  
Allison Marek  
Jim Mercurio, Jr. Warden  
Steven Vaughan  
Kirk Waldron  
George Webb  
Marie Wehrung  
Trent Williams

Other Clergy in Attendance

Dub Brooks  
Linda Shelton  
Alex Easley

The monthly meeting of the Vestry of Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church was held on Tuesday, March 22, 2016. The meeting commenced at 5:30 p.m.

1. Presentation concerning reVision Houston  
Charles Rotramel and Gregg Taylor from reVision presented to the Vestry an idea of reviving the Autry House restaurant concept at Palmer in St. Bede's Chapel. reVision is a nonprofit organization that works with at risk teens that are in the juvenile detention system. They would like to work up a business plan and present it to the Vestry for consideration.
2. Approval of the Minutes  
Minutes from the Vestry retreat held on February 27, 2016 were previously circulated. Steven Vaughan made a motion for approval of the minutes as corrected. Stuart Kensinger seconded. Motion carried.
3. Endowment Board  
Bob Itner was nominated as a member of the Endowment Board to replace Jim Key who rotated off the board. George Webb moved for approval of the

nomination. Abigail Butler seconded. Motion carried.

4. Approval of the 2015 Parochial Report

The 2015 Parochial Report was circulated for review and approval. Trent Williams moved for approval of the report. George Webb seconded. Motion Carried.

5. April Meeting

It was discussed that the April meeting would be devoted to the topic of parking.

6. Finance report

Jim Mercurio stated that the rectory was appraised at \$1.1M, which means that 100% of our current debt can be refinanced. A rate has been quoted is 4.25%, 25-30 year amortization and 5-7 year term. Currently security costs are projected to be over budget by \$25,000 for the year.

7. Stewardship

Ellee deGroot provided a handout summarizing 2015 giving and talked briefly about ideas for this year.

8. Personnel

Neil Willard announced the formation of a personnel committee with the following members:

Greg Hambrick – Chair  
Courtney Daniell-Knapp – Ex Officio  
Bet Hunter  
Jim Mercurio  
Laurel Rutledge  
Neil Willard

Tom Matchett will retire on June 31 and Steve Patterson will retire on August 31.

9. Eric Law on April 9

The Vestry is the host for this event and we should all support Parish attendance. It was discussed that a Easter handout and a letter from the Rector would publicize the event.

10. Other Business

Will Denham requested that each vestry meeting include updates from each of the standing committees as well as each of the vessels. The code of procedures addresses required reporting.

11. Rector's Announcements

Neil announced that Palmer is now a member of the Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes, an organization which addresses common issues faced by parishes as they seek to grow.

Neil discussed the PDAP reunion that will take place at Palmer in June. He also discussed the idea of celebrating Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church with a major feast day, on Palm Sunday.

Neil closed with a reading from Walter Brueggemann.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ James M. Lober  
James M. Lober, Clerk